THE

WORKS

OF THE

ENGLISH POETS.

WITH

PREFACES,

BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL,

BY SAMUEL JOHNSON.

VOLUME THE SIXTH.

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YOUNG.

THE following life was written, at my requeſt, by a gentleman who had better information than I could eaſily have obtained; and the publick will perhaps wiſh that I had ſolicited and obtained more ſuch favours from him.

"DEAR SIR,

In conſequence of our different converſations about authentick materials for the Life of Young, I ſend you the following detail.

Of great men, ſomething muſt always be ſaid to gratify curioſity. Of the illuſtrious author of the "Night Thoughts" much has been told of which there never could have been

 proofs;

proofs; and little care appears to have been taken to tell that of which proofs, with little trouble, might have been procured.

EDWARD YOUNG was born at Upham, near Wincheſter, in June, 1681. He was the ſon of Edward Young, at that time fellow of Wincheſter College and rector of Upham; who was the ſon of Jo. Young of Woodhay in Berkſhire, ſtyled by Wood *gentleman*. In September 1682 the Poet's father was collated to the prebend of Gillingham Minor, in the church of Sarum, by biſhop Ward. When Ward's faculties were impaired through age, his duties were neceſſarily performed by others. We learn from Wood, that, at a viſitation of Sprat's, July the 12th, 1686, the prebendary preached a Latin ſermon, afterwards publiſhed, with which the biſhop was ſo pleaſed, that he told the chapter he was concerned to find the preacher had one of the worſt prebends in their church. Some time after this, in conſequence of his merit and reputation, or of the intereſt of Lord Bradford, to whom, in 1702, he dedicated two volumes of ſermons, he was appointed chaplain to King William and Queen Mary,

Mary, and preferred to the deanry of Sarum. Jacob, who wrote in 1720, ſays, "he was "chaplain and clerk of the cloſet to the late "Queen, who honoured him by ſtanding god-"mother to the Poet." His fellowſhip of Wincheſter he reſigned in favour of a gentleman of the name of Harris, who married his only daughter. The dean died at Sarum, after a ſhort illneſs, in 1705, in the ſixty third year of his age. On the Sunday after his deceaſe Biſhop Burnet preached at the cathedral, and began his ſermon with ſaying, "Death has been "of late walking round us, and making breach "upon breach upon us, and has now carried "away the head of this body with a ſtroke; ſo "that he, whom you ſaw a week ago diſtri-"buting the holy myſteries, is now laid in "the duſt. But he ſtill lives in the many ex-"cellent directions he has left us, both how to "live and how to die."

The dean placed his ſon upon the foundation at Wincheſter College, where he had himſelf been educated. At this ſchool Edward Young remained till the election after his eighteenth birth-day, the period at which thoſe upon the foundation are ſuperannuated. Whe-

ther he did not betray his abilities early in life, or his maſters had not ſkill enough to diſcover in their pupil any marks of genius for which he merited reward, or no vacancy at Oxford afforded them an opportunity to beſtow upon him the reward provided for merit by William of Wykeham; certain it is, that to an Oxford fellowſhip our poet did not ſucceed. By chance, or by choice, New College cannot claim the honour of numbering among its fellows him who wrote the "Night Thoughts."

On the 13th of October, 1703, he was entered an independent member of New College, that he might live at little expence in the Warden's lodgings, who was a particular friend of his father's, till he ſhould be qualified to ſtand for a fellowſhip at All Souls. In a few months the warden of New College died. He then removed to Corpus College. The preſident of this ſociety, from regard alſo for his father, invited him thither, in order to leſſen his academical expences. In 1708, he was nominated to a law fellowſhip at All Souls by Archbiſhop Teniſon, into whoſe hands it came by devolution. Such repeated patronage, while it juſtifies Burnet's praiſe of the father, reflects credit

dit on the conduct of the ſon. The manner in which it was exerted ſeems to prove, that the father did not leave behind him much wealth.

On the 23d of April, 1714, Young took his degree of batchelor of civil laws, and his doctor's degree on the 10th of June, 1719.

Soon after he went to Oxford, he diſcovered, it is ſaid, an inclination for pupils. Whether he ever commenced tutor is not known. None has hitherto boaſted to have received his academical inſtruction from the author of the "Night Thoughts."

It is probable that his college was proud of him no leſs as a ſcholar than as a poet; for in 1716, when the foundation of the Codrington Library was laid, two years after he had taken his batchelor's degree, Young was appointed to ſpeak the Latin oration. This is at leaſt particular for being dedicated in Engliſh "To "the Ladies of the Codrington Family." To theſe ladies he ſays, "that he was unavoidably "flung into a ſingularity, by being obliged to "write an epiſtle dedicatory void of common-"place, and ſuch an one as was never pub-"liſhed before by any author whatever: that

"this practice abſolved them from any obliga-
"tion of reading what was preſented to them;
"and that the bookſeller approved of it, be-
"cauſe it would make people ſtare, was abſurd
"enough, and perfectly right."

Of this oration there is no appearance in his own edition of his works; and prefixed to an edition by Curll and Tonſon, in 1741, is a letter from Young to Curll, if we may credit Curll, dated December the 9th, 1739, wherein he ſays that he has not leiſure to review what he formerly wrote, and adds, "I "have not the 'Epiſtle to Lord Lanſdowne.' "If you will take my advice, I would have "you omit that, and the oration on Codring-"ton. I think the collection will ſell better "without them."

There are who relate, that, when firſt Young found himſelf independent, and his own maſter at All Souls, he was not the ornament to religion and morality which he afterwards became.

The authority of his father, indeed, had ceaſed, ſome time before, by his death; and Young was certainly not aſhamed to be patronized

tronized by the infamous Wharton. But Wharton befriended in Young, perhaps, the poet, and particularly the tragedian. If virtuous authors muſt be patronized only by virtuous peers, who ſhall point them out?

Yet Pope is ſaid by Ruffhead to have told Warburton, that "Young had much of a ſublime genius, though without common ſenſe; ſo that his genius, having no guide, was perpetually liable to degenerate into bombaſt. This made him paſs a *fooliſh youth*, the ſport of peers and poets: but his having a very good heart enabled him to ſupport the clerical character when he aſſumed it, firſt with decency, and afterwards with honour."

They who think ill of Young's morality in the early part of his life, may perhaps be wrong; but Tindal could not err in his opinion of Young's warmth and ability in the cauſe of religion. Tindal uſed to ſpend much of his time at All Souls. "The other boys," ſaid the atheiſt, "I can always anſwer, becauſe I "always know whence they have their ar- "guments, which I have read a hundred "times; but that fellow Young is continu-

"ally peſtering me with ſomething of his "own *."

After all, Tindal and the cenſurers of Young may be reconcileable. Young might, for two or three years, have tried that kind of life, in which his natural principles would not ſuffer him to wallow long. If this were ſo, he has left behind him not only his evidence in favour of virtue, but the potent teſtimony of experience againſt vice.

We ſhall ſoon ſee that one of his earlieſt productions was more ſerious than what comes from the generality of unfledged poets.

Young perhaps aſcribed the good fortune of Addiſon to the "Poem to his Majeſty," preſented, with a copy of verſes, to Somers; and hoped that he alſo might ſoar to wealth and honours on wings of the ſame kind. His firſt poetical flight was when Queen Anne called up to the Houſe of Lords the ſons of the Earls of

* As my great friend is now become the ſubject of biography, it ſhould be told, that, every time I called upon Johnſon during the time I was employed in collecting materials for this life and putting it together, he never ſuffered me to depart without ſome ſuch farewell as this: "Don't forget that raſcal "Tindal, Sir. Be ſure to hang up the Atheiſt." Alluding to this anecdote, which Johnſon had mentioned to me.

North-

Northampton and Ayleſbury, and added, in one day, ten others to the number of peers. In order to reconcile the people to one, at leaſt, of the new lords, he publiſhed, in 1712, "An "Epiſtle to the Right Honourable George "Lord Lanſdowne." In this compoſition the poet pours out his panegyrick with the extravagance of a young man, who thinks his preſent ſtock of wealth will never be exhauſted.

The poem ſeems intended alſo to reconcile the publick to the late peace. This is endeavoured to be done by ſhewing that men are ſlain in war, and that in peace "harveſts wave, "and commerce ſwells her ſail." If this be humanity, for which he meant it; is it politicks? Another purpoſe of this epiſtle appears to have been, to prepare the publick for the reception of ſome tragedy he might have in hand. His lordſhip's patronage, he ſays, will not let him "repent his paſſion for the ſtage;" and the particular praiſe beſtowed on "Othello" and "Oroonoko" looks as if ſome ſuch character as Zanga was even then in contemplation. The affectionate mention of the death of his friend Harriſon of New College, at the cloſe of this poem, is an inſtance of Young's art, which

diſplayed

diſplayed itſelf ſo wonderfully ſome time afterwards in the "Night Thoughts," of making the publick a party in his private ſorrow.

Should juſtice call upon you to cenſure this poem, it ought at leaſt to be remembered that he did not inſert it in his works; and that in the letter to Curll, as we have ſeen, he adviſes its omiſſion. The bookſellers, in the late body of Engliſh Poetry, ſhould have diſtinguiſhed what was deliberately rejected by the reſpective authors*. This I ſhall be careful to do with regard to Young. "I think," ſays he, "the "following pieces in *four* volumes to be the "moſt excuſeable of all that I have written; "and I wiſh *leſs apology* was needful for theſe. "As there is no recalling what is got abroad, "the pieces here republiſhed I have reviſed "and corrected, and rendered them as *pardon*-"*able* as it was in my power to do."

Shall the gates of repentance be ſhut only againſt literary ſinners?

When Addiſon publiſhed "Cato" in 1713, Young had the honour of prefixing to it a recommendatory copy of verſes. This is one of

* Dr. Johnſon, in many caſes, thought and directed differently, particularly in Young's Works. J. N.

the

the pieces which the author of the "Night "Thoughts" did not republiſh.

On the appearance of his "Poem on the "Laſt Day," Addiſon did not return Young's compliment; but "The Engliſhman" of October 29, 1713, which was probably written by Addiſon, ſpeaks handſomely of this poem. The "Laſt Day" was publiſhed ſoon after the peace. The vice-chancellor's *imprimatur*, for it was firſt printed at Oxford, is dated May the 19th, 1713. From the exordium Young appears to have ſpent ſome time on the compoſition of it. While other bards "with Britain's "hero fet their ſouls on fire," he draws, he ſays, a deeper ſcene. Marlborough *had been* conſidered by Britain as her *hero*; but, when the "Laſt Day" was publiſhed, female cabal had blaſted for a time the laurels of Blenheim. This ſerious poem was finiſhed by Young as early as 1710, before he was thirty; for part of it is printed in the "Tatler." It was inſcribed to the Queen, in a dedication, which, for ſome reaſon he did not admit into his works. It tells her, that his only title to the great honour he now does himſelf is the obligation which he formerly received from her royal indulgence.

Of

Of this obligation nothing is now known; unleſs he alluded to her being his godmother. He is ſaid indeed to have been engaged at a ſettled ſtipend as a writer for the court. In Swift's "Rhapſody on Poetry" are theſe lines, ſpeaking of the court——

Whence Gay was baniſh'd in diſgrace,
Where Pope will never ſhow his face,
Where Y—— muſt torture his invention
To flatter knaves, or loſe his penſion.

That Y——— means Young ſeems clear from four other lines in the ſame poem.

Attend, ye Popes and Youngs and Gays,
And tune your harps and ſtrew your bays;
Your panegyricks here provide;
You cannot err on flattery's ſide.

Yet who ſhall ſay with certainty, that Young was a penſioner? In all modern periods of this country, have not the writers on one ſide been regularly call.d Hirelings, and on the other Patriots?

Of the dedication the complexion is clearly political. It ſpeaks in the higheſt terms of the late peace; it gives her majeſty praiſe indeed for her victories, but ſays that the author is more

more pleaſed to ſee her riſe from this lower world, ſoaring above the clouds, paſſing the firſt and ſecond heavens, and leaving the fixed ſtars behind her; nor will he loſe her there, he ſays, but keep her ſtill in view through the boundleſs ſpaces on the other ſide of Creation, in her journey towards eternal bliſs, till he behold the heaven of heavens open, and angels receiving and conveying her ſtill onward from the ſtretch of his imagination, which tires in her purſuit, and falls back again to earth.

The Queen was ſoon called away from this lower world, to a place where human praiſe or human flattery, even leſs general than this, are of little conſequence. If Young thought the dedication contained only the praiſe of truth, he ſhould not have omitted it in his works. Was he conſcious of the exaggeration of party? Then he ſhould not have written it. The poem itſelf is not without a glance towards politicks, notwithſtanding the ſubject. The cry that the church was in danger, had not yet ſubſided. The "Laſt Day," written by a layman, was much approved by the miniſtry, and their friends.

Before

Before the queen's death, "The Force of "Religion, or Vanquiſhed Love," was ſent into the world. This poem is founded on the execution of Lady Jane Gray and her huſband Lord Guildford 1554; a ſtory choſen for the ſubject of a tragedy by Edmund Smith, and wrought into a tragedy by Rowe. The dedication of it to the counteſs of Saliſbury does not appear in his own edition. He hopes it may be ſome excuſe for his preſumption that the ſtory could not have been read without thoughts of the Counteſs of Saliſbury, though it had been dedicated to another. "To be-"hold," he proceeds, "a perſon *only* virtu-"ous, ſtirs in us a prudent regret; to behold "a perſon *only* amiable to the ſight, warms us "with a religious indignation; but to turn our "eyes on a Counteſs of Saliſbury, gives us "pleaſure and improvement; it works a ſort "of miracle, occaſions the biaſs of our nature "to fall off from ſin, and makes our very "ſenſes and affections converts to our religion, "and promoters of our duty." His flattery was as ready for the other ſex as for ours, and was at leaſt as well adapted.

Auguſt the 27th, 1714, Pope writes to his friend

friend Jervas, that he is juſt arrived from Oxford; that every one is much concerned for the Queen's death, but that no panegyricks are ready yet for the King. Nothing like friendſhip had yet taken place between Pope and Young; for, ſoon after the event which Pope mentions, Young publiſhed a poem on the Queen's death, and his Majeſty's acceſſion to the throne. It is inſcribed to Addiſon, then ſecretary to the Lords Juſtices. Whatever were the obligations which he had formerly received from Anne, the poet appears to aim at ſomething of the ſame ſort from George. Of the poem the intention ſeems to have been to ſhew that he had the ſame extravagant ſtrain of praiſe for a king as for a queen. To diſcover, at the very outſet of a foreigner's reign, that the Gods bleſs his new ſubjects in ſuch a king, is ſomething more than praiſe. Neither was this deemed one of his *excuſeable pieces*. We do not find it in his works.

Young's father had been well acquainted with Lady Anne Wharton, the firſt wife of Thomas Wharton, Eſq. afterwards Marquis of Wharton; a lady celebrated for her poetical talents by Burnet and by Waller.

To

To the Dean of Sarum's viſitation ſermon, already mentioned, were added ſome verſes "by that excellent poeteſs Mrs. Anne Whar-"ton," upon its being tranſlated into Engliſh, at the inſtance of Waller by Atwood. Wharton, after he became ennobled, did not drop the ſon of his old friend. In him, during the ſhort time he lived, Young found a patron, and in his diſſolute deſcendant a friend and a companion. The Marquis died in April 1715. In the beginning of the next year the young Marquis ſet out upon his travels, from which he returned in about a twelvemonth. The beginning of 1717 carried him to Ireland; where, ſays the Biographia, "on the ſcore of "his extraordinary qualities, he had the ho-"nour done him of being admitted, though "under age, to take his ſeat in the Houſe of "Lords."

With this unhappy character it is not unlikely that Young went to Ireland. From his Letter to Richardſon on "Original Compoſi-"tion," it is clear he was, at ſome period of his life, in that country. "I remember," ſays he, in that letter, ſpeaking of Swift, "as I and "others were taking with him an evening walk, "about

"about a mile out of Dublin, he ſtopt ſhort; "we paſſed on; but, perceiving he did not "follow us, I went back, and found him fixed "as a ſtatue, and earneſtly gazing upward at a "noble elm, which in its uppermoſt branches "was much withered and decayed. Pointing "at it," he ſaid, "I ſhall be like that tree, I "ſhall die at top." Is it not probable, that this viſit to Ireland was paid when he had an opportunity of going thither with his avowed friend and patron?

From "The Engliſhman" it appears that a tragedy by Young was in the theatre ſo early as 1713. Yet "Buſiris" was not brought upon Drury Lane Stage till 1719. It was inſcribed to the Duke of Newcaſtle, "becauſe "the late inſtances he had received of his "Grace's undeſerved and uncommon favour, "in an affair of ſome conſequence, foreign to "the theatre, had taken from him the privilege "of chuſing a patron." The dedication he afterwards ſuppreſſed.

"Buſiris" was followed in the year 1721 by "The Revenge." He dedicated this famous tragedy to the Duke of Wharton. "Your "Grace," ſays the dedication, "has been

"pleaſed to make yourſelf acceſſary to the fol-
"lowing ſcenes, not only by ſuggeſting the
"moſt beautiful incident in them, but by
"making all poſſible proviſion for the ſucceſs
"of the whole."

That his Grace ſhould have ſuggeſted the incident to which he alludes, whatever that incident might have been, is not unlikely. The laſt mental exertion of the ſuperannuated young man, in his quarters at Lerida, in Spain, was ſome ſcenes of a tragedy on the ſtory of Mary Queen of Scots.

Dryden dedicated "Marriage à la Mode" to Wharton's infamous relation Rocheſter; whom he acknowledges not only as the defender of his poetry, but as the promoter of his fortune. Young concludes his addreſs to Wharton thus—"My preſent fortune is his
"bounty, and my future his care; which I
"will venture to ſay will be always remem-
"bered to his honour; ſince he, I know, in-
"tended his generoſity as an encouragement to
"merit, though, through his very pardonable
"partiality to one who bears him ſo ſincere a
"duty and reſpect, I happen to receive the
"benefit of it." That he ever had ſuch a pa-

tron

tron as Wharton, Young took all the pains in his power to conceal from the world, by excluding this dedication from his works. He ſhould have remembered, that he at the ſame time concealed his obligation to Wharton for *the moſt beautiful incident* in what is ſurely not his leaſt beautiful compoſition. The paſſage juſt quoted is, in a poem afterwards addreſſed to Walpole, literally copied:

Be this thy partial ſmile from cenſure free;
'Twas meant for merit, though it fell on me.

While Young, who, in his "Love of Fame," complains grievouſly how often "dedications "waſh an Æthiop white," was painting an amiable Duke of Wharton in periſhable proſe, Pope was, perhaps, beginning to deſcribe the "ſcorn and wonder of his days," in laſting verſe.

To the patronage of ſuch a character, had Young ſtudied men as much as Pope, he would have known how little to have truſted. Young, however, was certainly indebted to it for ſomething material; and the duke's regard for Young, added to his "Luſt of Praiſe," procured to All Souls College a donation, which

was not forgotten by the poet when he dedicated "The Revenge."

It will ſurprize you to ſee me cite ſecond Atkins, Caſe 136, Stiles *verſus* the Attorney General, 14 March, 1740; as authority for the life of a poet. But biographers do not always find ſuch certain guides as the oaths of the perſons whom they record. Chancellor Hardwicke was to determine whether two annuities, granted by the Duke of Wharton to Young, were for legal conſiderations. One was dated the 24th of March, 1719, and accounted for his Grace's bounty in a ſtyle princely and commendable, if not legal—"conſidering that the "publick good is advanced by the encourage-"ment of learning and the polite arts, and "being pleaſed therein with the attempts of "Dr. Young, in conſideration thereof, and of "the love I bear him, &c." The other was dated the 10th of July, 1722.

Young, on his examination, ſwore that he quitted the Exeter family, and refuſed an annuity of 100*l.* which had been offered him for his life if he would continue tutor to Lord Burleigh, upon the preſſing ſolicitations of the Duke of Wharton, and his Grace's aſſurances of

of providing for him in a much more ample manner. It alſo appeared that the duke had given him a bond for 600*l.* dated the 15th of March, 1721, in conſideration of his taking ſeveral journies, and being at great expences, in order to be choſen member of the Houſe of Commons at the duke's deſire, and in conſideration of his not taking two livings of 200*l.* and 400*l.* in the gift of All Souls College, on his Grace's promiſes of ſerving and advancing him in the world.

Of his adventures in the Exeter family I am unable to give any account. The attempt to get into Parliament was at Cirenceſter, where Young ſtood a conteſted election. His Grace diſcovered in him talents for oratory as well as for poetry. Nor was this judgement wrong. Young, after he took orders, became a very popular preacher, and was much followed for the grace and animation of his delivery. By his oratorical talents he was once in his life, according to the Biographia, deſerted. As he was preaching in his turn at St. James's, he plainly perceived it was out of his power to command the attention of his audience. This ſo affected the feelings of the preacher, that he

ſat back in the pulpit, and burſt into tears. But we muſt purſue his poetical life.

In 1719 he lamented the death of Addiſon, in a Letter addreſſed to their common friend Tickell. For the ſecret hiſtory of the following lines, if they contain any, it is now vain to ſeek:

> *In joy once join'd*, in ſorrow, now, for years—
> Partner in grief, and brother of my tears,
> Tickell, accept this verſe, thy mournful due.

From your account of Tickell it appears that he and Young uſed to "communicate to "each other whatever verſes they wrote, even "to the leaſt things."

In 1719 appeared a "Paraphraſe on Part of "the Book of Job." Parker, to whom it is dedicated, had not long, by means of the ſeals, been qualified for a patron. Of this work the author's opinion may be known from his Letter to Curll: "You ſeem, in the Collection "you propoſe, to have omitted what I think "may claim the firſt place in it; I mean 'A "Tranſlation from Part of Job,' printed by "Mr. Tonſon." The dedication, which was only ſuffered to appear in Mr. Tonſon's edition, while

while it ſpeaks with ſatisfaction of his preſent retirement, ſeems to make an unuſual ſtruggle to eſcape from retirement. But every one who ſings in the dark does not ſing from joy. It is addreſſed, in no common ſtrain of flattery, to a chancellor, of whom he clearly appears to have had no kind of knowledge.

Of his Satires it would not have been impoſſible to fix the dates without the aſſiſtance of firſt editions, which, as you had occaſion to obſerve in your account of Dryden, are with difficulty found. We muſt then have referred to the poems, to diſcover when they were written. For theſe internal notes of time we ſhould not have referred in vain. The firſt Satire laments that "Guilt's chief foe in Addiſon is "fled." The ſecond, addreſſing himſelf, aſks,

Is thy ambition ſweating for a rhyme,
Thou unambitious fool, at this late time?
A fool at *forty* is a fool indeed.

The Satires were originally publiſhed ſeparately in folio, under the title of "The Univerſal "Paſſion." Theſe paſſages fix the appearance of the firſt to about 1725, the time at which it came out. As Young ſeldom ſuffered his pen

to dry, after he had once dipped it in poetry, we may conclude that he began his Satires ſoon after he had written the "Paraphraſe on Job" The laſt Satire was certainly finiſhed in the beginning of the year 1726. In December 1725 the king, in his paſſage from Helvoetſluys, eſcaped with great difficulty from a ſtorm by landing at Rye; and the concluſion of the Satire turns the eſcape into a miracle, in ſuch an encomiaſtick ſtrain of compliment as poetry too often ſeeks to pay to royalty.

From the ſixth of theſe poems we learn,

Midſt empire's charms, how Carolina's heart
Glow'd with the love of virtue and of art:

ſince the grateful poet tells us, in the next couplet,

Her favour is diffus'd to that degree,
Exceſs of goodneſs! it has dawn'd on me.

Her Majeſty had ſtood godmother and given her name to a daughter of the Lady whom Young married in 1731; and had perhaps ſhown ſome attention to Lady Elizabeth's future huſband.

The fifth Satire, "On Women," was not publiſhed till 1727; and the ſixth not till 1728.

To

To theſe poems, when, in 1728, he gathered them into one publication, he prefixed a preface; in which he obſerves, that "no "man can converſe much in the world but, "at what he meets with, he muſt either be "inſenſible or grieve, or be angry or ſmile. "Now to ſmile at it, and turn it into ridicule," he adds, "I think moſt eligible, as it hurts "ourſelves leaſt, and gives vice and folly the "greateſt offence. Laughing at the miſcon-"duct of the world, will in a great meaſure, "eaſe us of any more diſagreeable paſſion about "it. One paſſion is more effectually driven out "by another than by reaſon, whatever ſome "teach." So wrote, and ſo of courſe thought, the lively and witty ſatiriſt at the grave age of almoſt fifty, who, many years earlier in life, wrote the "Laſt Day." After all, Swift pronounced of theſe ſatires, that they ſhould either have been more angry, or more merry.

Is it not ſomewhat ſingular that Young preſerved, without any palliation, this preface, ſo bluntly deciſive in favour of laughing at the world, in the ſame collection of his works which contains the mournful, angry, gloomy "Night Thoughts?"

At

At the concluſion of the preface he applies Plato's beautiful fable of the "Birth of Love" to modern poetry, with the addition, "that "Poetry, like Love, is a little ſubject to blind- "neſs, which makes her miſtake her way to "preferments and honours; and that ſhe re- "tains a dutiful admiration of her father's fa- "mily; but divides her favours, and generally "lives with her mother's relations." Poetry, it is true, did not lead Young to preferments or to honours; but was there not ſomething like blindneſs in the flattery which he ſometimes forced her, and her ſiſter Proſe, to utter? She was always, indeed, taught by him to entertain a moſt dutiful admiration of riches; but ſurely Young, though nearly related to Poetry, had no connexion with her whom Plato makes the mother of Love. That he could not well complain of being related to Poverty appears clearly from the frequent bounties which his gratitude records, and from the wealth which he left behind him By "The Univerſal Paſſion" he acquired no vulgar fortune, more than three thouſand pounds. A conſiderable ſum had already been ſwallowed up in the South-Sea. For this loſs he took the ven-

vengeance of an author. His Muſe makes poetical uſe more than once of a South-Sea Dream.

It is related by Mr. Spence, in his Manuſcript Anecdotes, on the authority of Mr. Rawlinſon, that Young, upon the publication of his "Univerſal Paſſion," received from the Duke of Grafton two thouſand pounds; and that, when one of his friends exclaimed, "Two "thouſand pounds for a poem!" he ſaid it was the beſt bargain he ever made in his life, for the poem was worth four thouſand.

This ſtory may be true; but it ſeems to have been raiſed from the two anſwers of Lord Burghley and Sir Philip Sidney in Spenſer's Life.

After inſcribing his Satires, not perhaps without the hope of preferments and honours, to ſuch names as the Duke of Dorſet, Mr. Dodington, Mr. Spencer Compton, Lady Elizabeth Germain, and Sir Robert Walpole, he returns to plain panegyric. In 1726 he addreſſed a poem to Sir Robert Walpole, of which the title ſufficiently explains the intention. If Young muſt be acknowledged a ready celebrator, he did not endeavour, or did not chooſe, to be a laſting one. "The Inſtalment" is among

among the pieces he did not admit into the number of his *excuſeable writings*. Yet it contains a couplet which pretends to pant after the power of beſtowing immortality:

Oh how I long, enkindled by the theme,
In deep eternity to launch thy name!

The bounty of the former reign ſeems to have been continued, poſſibly increaſed, in this. Whatever it might have been, the poet thought he deſerved it; for he was not aſhamed to acknowledge what, without his acknowledgement, would now perhaps never have been known:

My breaſt, O Walpole, glows with grateful fire.
The ſtreams of royal bounty, turn'd by thee,
Refreſh the dry domains of poeſy.

If the purity of modern patriotiſm will term Young a penſioner, it muſt at leaſt be confeſſed he was a grateful one.

The reign of the new monarch was uſhered in by Young with "Ocean, an Ode." The hint of it was taken from the royal ſpeech, which recommended the increaſe and the encouragement of the ſeamen; that they might be

be "invited, rather than compelled by force "and violence, to enter into the ſervice of "their country;" a plan which humanity muſt lament that policy has not even yet been able, or willing, to carry into execution. Prefixed to the original publication were an "Ode to "the King, Pater Patriæ," and an "Eſ- "ſay on Lyrick Poetry." It is but juſtice to confeſs, that he preſerved neither of them; and that the ode itſelf, which in the firſt edition, and in the laſt, conſiſts of ſeventy-three ſtanzas, in the author's own edition is reduced to forty-nine. Among the omitted paſſages is a "Wiſh," that concluded the poem, which few would have ſuſpected Young of forming; and of which few, after having formed it, would confeſs ſomething like their ſhame by ſuppreſſion.

It ſtood originally ſo high in the author's opinion, that he intituled the poem, "Ocean, "an Ode. Concluding with a Wiſh." This wiſh conſiſts of thirteen ſtanzas. The firſt runs thus:

O may I *ſteal*
Along the *vale*
Of humble life, ſecure from foes!

My

My friend ſincere,
My judgement clear,
And gentle buſineſs my repoſe!

The three laſt ſtanzas are not more remarkable for juſt rhymes; but, altogether, they will make rather a curious page in the life of Young,

Prophetic ſchemes,
And golden dreams,
May I, unſanguine, caſt away!
Have what I *have*,
And live, not *leave*,
Enamour'd of the preſent day!

My hours my own!
My faults unknown!
My chief revenue in content!
Then leave one *beam*
Of honeſt *fame!*
And ſcorn the labour'd monument!

Unhurt my urn
Till that great TURN
When mighty Nature's ſelf ſhall die,
Time ceaſe to glide,
With human pride,
Sunk in the ocean of eternity!

It

It is whimſical that he, who was ſoon to bid adieu to rhyme, ſhould fix upon a meaſure in which rhyme abounds even to ſatiety. Of this he ſaid, in his "Eſſay on Lyrick Poetry," prefixed to the poem—"For the more *harmony* "likewiſe I choſe the frequent return of rhyme, "which laid me under great difficulties. But "difficulties, overcome, give grace and plea-"ſure. Nor can I account for the *pleaſure of* "*rhyme in general* (of which the moderns are "too fond) but from this truth." Yet the moderns ſurely deſerve not much cenſure for their fondneſs of what, by his own confeſſion, affords pleaſure, and abounds in harmony.

The next paragraph in his Eſſay did not occur to him when he talked of "that great turn" in the ſtanza juſt quoted. "But then the "writer muſt take care that the difficulty is "overcome. That is, he muſt make rhyme "conſiſtent with as perfect ſenſe and expreſ-"ſion, as could be expected if he was perfectly "free from that ſhackle."

Another part of this Eſſay will convict the following ſtanza of, what every reader will diſcover in it, "involuntary burleſque."

The

The northern blaſt,
The ſhatter'd maſt,
The ſyrt, the whirlpool, and the rock,
The breaking ſpout,
The *ſtars gone out*,
The boiling ſtreight, the monſter's ſhock.

But would the Engliſh poets fill quite ſo many volumes, if all their productions were to be tried, like this, by an elaborate eſſay on each particular ſpecies of poetry of which they exhibit ſpecimens?

If Young be not a lyric poet, he is at leaſt a critic in that ſort of poetry; and, if his lyric poetry can be proved bad, it was firſt proved ſo by his own criticiſm. This ſurely is candid.

Milbourne was ſtyled by Pope "the faireſt "of critics," only becauſe he exhibited his own verſion of Virgil to be compared with Dryden's which he condemned, and with which every reader had it otherwiſe in his power to compare it. Young was ſurely not the moſt unfair of poets for prefixing to a lyric compoſition an eſſay on Lyric Poetry ſo juſt and impartial as to condemn himſelf.

We

We ſhall ſoon come to a work, before which we find indeed no critical Eſſay, but which diſdains to ſhrink from the touchſtone of the ſevereſt critick; and which certainly, as I remember to have heard you ſay, if it contain ſome of the worſt, contains alſo ſome of the beſt things in the language.

Soon after the appearance of "Ocean," when he was almoſt fifty, Young entered into Orders. In April 1728, not long after he put on the gown, he was appointed chaplain to George the Second.

The tragedy of "The Brothers," which was already in rehearſal, he immediately withdrew from the ſtage. The managers reſigned it with ſome reluctance to the delicacy of the new clergyman. The Epilogue to "The Brothers," the only appendages to any of his three plays which he added himſelf, is, I believe, the only one of the kind. He calls it an hiſtorical Epilogue. Finding that "Guilt's dreadful cloſe his narrow ſcene denied," he, in a manner, continues the tragedy in the Epilogue, and relates how Rome revenged the ſhade of Demetrius, and puniſhed Perſeus "for this night's "deed."

Of Young's taking orders ſomething is told by the biographer of Pope, which places the eaſineſs and ſimplicity of the poet in a ſingular light. When he determined on the Church, he did not addreſs himſelf to Sherlock, to Atterbury, or to Hare, for the beſt inſtructions in Theology, but to Pope; who, in a youthful frolick, adviſed the diligent peruſal of Thomas Aquinas. With this treaſure Young retired from interruption to an obſcure place in the ſuburbs. His poetical guide to godlineſs hearing nothing of him during half a year, and apprehending he might have carried the jeſt too far, ſought after him, and found him juſt in time to prevent what Ruffhead calls "an irretrievable derangement."

That attachment to his favourite ſtudy, which made him think a poet the ſureſt guide in his new profeſſion, left him little doubt whether poetry were the ſureſt path to its honours and preferments. Not long indeed after he took orders, he publiſhed in proſe, 1728, "A true "Eſtimate of Human Life," dedicated, notwithſtanding the Latin quotations with which it abounds, to the Queen; and a ſermon preached before the Houſe of Commons, 1729,

on

on the martyrdom of King Charles, intituled, "An Apology for Princes, or the Reverence "due to Government." But the "Second Diſ- "courſe," the counterpart of his "Eſtimate," without which it cannot be called "a true "eſtimate," though in 1728 it was announced as "ſoon to be publiſhed," never appeared; and his old friends the Muſes were not forgotten. In 1730 he relapſed to poetry, and ſent into the world "Imperium Pelagi: "a Naval Lyric, written in Imitation of Pin- "dar's Spirit, occaſioned by his Majeſty's Re- "turn from Hanover, September 1729, and "the ſucceeding Peace." It is inſcribed to the Duke of Chandos. In the Preface we are told, that the Ode is the moſt ſpirited kind of Poetry, and that the Pindaric is the moſt ſpirited kind of Ode. "This I ſpeak," he adds, with ſufficient candour, "at my own very great "peril. But truth has an eternal title to our "confeſſion, though we are ſure to ſuffer by it." Behold, again, the faireſt of poets. Young's "Imperium Pelagi" was ridiculed in Fielding's "Tom Thumb;" but, let us not forget that it was one of his pieces which the author of

the "Night Thoughts" deliberately refuſed to own.

Not long after this Pindaric attempt, he publiſhed two Epiſtles to Pope, "concerning the "Authors of the Age," 1730. Of theſe poems one occaſion ſeems to have been an apprehenſion leſt, from the livelineſs of his ſatires, he ſhould not be deemed ſufficiently ſerious for promotion in the Church.

In July 1730 he was preſented by his College to the rectory of Welwyn in Hertfordſhire. In May 1731 he married Lady Elizabeth Lee, daughter of the Earl of Litchfield, and widow of Colonel Lee. His connexion with this lady aroſe from his father's acquaintance, already mentioned, with Lady Anne Wharton, who was coheireſs of Sir Henry Lee of Ditchley in Oxfordſhire. Poetry had lately been taught by Addiſon to aſpire to the arms of nobility, though not with extraordinary happineſs.

We may naturally conclude that Young now gave himſelf up in ſome meaſure to the comforts of his new connexion, and to the expectations of that preferment which he thought due to his poetical talents, or, at leaſt, to the manner

manner in which they had ſo frequently been exerted.

The next production of his Muſe was "The "Sea-piece," in two odes.

Young enjoys the credit of what is called an "Extempore Epigram on Voltaire;" who, when he was in England, ridiculed, in the company of the jealous Engliſh poet, Milton's al- "legory of Sin and Death"——

You are ſo witty, profligate, and thin,
At once we think thee Milton, Death, and Sin.

From the following paſſage in the poetical Dedication of his "Sea-piece" to Voltaire, it ſeems that this extemporaneous reproof, if it muſt be extemporaneous, for what few will now affirm Voltaire to have deſerved any reproof, was ſomething longer than a diſtich, and ſomething more gentle than the diſtich juſt quoted.

No ſtranger, Sir, though born in foreign climes.
On *Dorſet* downs, when Milton's page,
With Sin and Death provok'd thy rage,
Thy rage provok'd, who ſooth'd with *gentle* rhymes?

By "Dorſet downs" he probably meant Mr. Dodington's ſeat. In Pitt's Poems is "An "Epiſtle to Dr. Edward Young, at Eaſtbury "in Dorſetſhire, on the Review at Sarum, "1722.

While with your Dodington retir'd you ſit,
Charm'd with his flowing Burgundy and wit, &c.

Thomſon, in his Autumn, addreſſing Mr. Dodington, calls his ſeat the ſeat of the Muſes,

Where, in the ſecret bower and winding walk,
For virtuous Young and thee they twine the bay.

The praiſes Thomſon beſtows but a few lines before on Philips, the ſecond

Who nobly durſt, in rhyme-unfetter'd verſe,
With Britiſh freedom ſing the Britiſh ſong,

added to Thomſon's example and ſucceſs, might perhaps induce Young, as we ſhall ſee preſently, to write his great work without rhyme.

In 1734 he publiſhed "The Foreign Ad- "dreſs, or the beſt Argument for Peace, occa- "ſioned by the Britiſh Fleet and the Poſture "of

"of Affairs. Written in the Character of a "Sailor." It is not to be found in the author's four volumes.

He now appears to have given up all hopes of overtaking Pindar, and perhaps at laſt reſolved to turn his ambition to ſome original ſpecies of poetry. This poem concludes with a formal farewel to Ode, which few of Young's readers will regret.

> My ſhell, which Clio gave, which *Kings applaud*,
> Which Europe's bleeding Genius call'd abroad,
> Adieu!

In a ſpecies of poetry altogether his own he next tried his ſkill, and ſucceeded.

Of his wife he was deprived in 1741. Lady Elizabeth had loſt, after her marriage with Young, an amiable daughter, by her former huſband, juſt after ſhe was married to Mr. Temple, ſon of Lord Palmerſton. Mr. Temple did not long remain after his wife, though he was married a ſecond time to a daughter of Sir John Barnard's, whoſe ſon is the preſent peer. Mr. and Mrs. Temple have generally been conſidered as Philander and Narciſſa. From the great friendſhip which conſtantly ſubſiſted

between Mr. Temple and Young, as well as from other circumſtances, it is probable that the poet had both him and Mrs. Temple in view for theſe characters; though at the ſame time ſome paſſages reſpecting Philander do not appear to ſuit either Mr. Temple or any other perſon with whom Young was known to be connected or acquainted, while all the circumſtances relating to Narciſſa have been conſtantly found applicable to Young's daughter-in-law.

At what ſhort intervals the poet tells us he was wounded by the deaths of the three perſons particularly lamented, none that has read the "Night Thoughts" (and who has not read them?) needs to be informed.

Inſatiate Archer! could not one ſuffice?
Thy ſhaft flew thrice; and thrice my peace was ſlain;
And thrice, ere thrice yon moon had fill'd her horn.

Yet how is it poſſible that Mr. and Mrs. Temple and Lady Elizabeth Young could be theſe three victims, over whom Young has hitherto been pitied for having to pour the "Midnight

"Midnight Sorrows" of his religious poetry? Mrs. Temple died in 1736; Mr. Temple four years afterwards in 1740; and the poet's wife ſeven months after Mr. Temple in 1741. How could the inſatiate Archer thrice ſlay his peace, in theſe three perſons, "ere thrice the moon had fill'd her horn?"

But in the ſhort Preface to "The Complaint" he ſeriouſly tells us, "that the occaſion of this "poem was real, not fictitious; and that the "facts mentioned did naturally pour theſe "moral reflections on the thought of the wri-"ter." It is probable, therefore, that in theſe three contradictory lines, the poet complains more than the father-in-law, the friend, or the widower.

Whatever names belong to theſe facts, or, if the names be thoſe generally ſuppoſed, whatever heightening a poet's ſorrow may have given the facts; to the ſorrow Young felt from them, religion and morality are indebted ſo the "Night Thoughts." There is a pleaſure ſure in ſadneſs which mourners only know!

Of theſe poems the two or three firſt have been peruſed perhaps more eagerly and more frequently than the reſt. When he got as far

as

as the fourth or fifth, his original motive for taking up the pen was anſwered; his grief was naturally either diminiſhed or exhauſted. We ſtill find the ſame pious poet; but we hear leſs of Philander and Narciſſa, and leſs of the mourner whom he loved to pity.

Mrs. Temple died of a conſumption at Lyons, in her way to Nice, the year after her marriage; that is, when poetry relates the fact, "in her bridal hour." It is more than poetically true, that Young accompanied her to the continent.

> I flew, I ſnatch'd her from the rigid North,
> And bore her nearer to the ſun.

But in vain. Her funeral was attended with the difficulties painted in ſuch animated colours in Night the Third. After her death, the remainder of the party paſſed the enſuing winter at Nice.

The poet ſeems perhaps in theſe compoſitions to dwell with more melancholy on the death of Philander and Narciſſa, than of his wife. But it is only for this reaſon. He who runs and reads may remember, that in the "Night Thoughts" Philander and Narciſſa are often

often mentioned, and often lamented. To recollect lamentations over the author's wife, the memory must have been charged with distinct passages. This lady brought him one child, Frederick, now living, to whom the Prince of Wales was godfather.

That domestic grief is, in the first instance, to be thanked for these ornaments to our language, it is impossible to deny. Nor would it be common hardiness to contend, that worldly discontent had no hand in these joint productions of poetry and piety. Yet am I by no means sure that, at any rate, we should not have had something of the same colour from Young's pencil, notwithstanding the liveliness of his satires. In so long a life, causes for discontent and occasions for grief must have occurred. It is not clear to me that his Muse was not sitting upon the watch for the first which happened. "Night Thoughts" were not uncommon to her, even when first she visited the poet, and at a time when he himself was remarkable neither for gravity nor gloominess. In his "Last Day," almost his earliest poem, he calls her "the melancholy Maid,"

whom

——whom diſmal ſcenes delight,
Frequent at tombs and in the realms of Night.

In the prayer which concludes the ſecond book of the ſame poem, he ſays—

—Oh! permit the gloom of ſolemn night
To ſacred thought may forcibly invite.
Oh! how divine to tread the milky way,
To the bright palace of Eternal Day!

When Young was writing a tragedy, Grafton is ſaid by Spence to have ſent him a human ſkull, with a candle in it, as a lamp; and the poet is reported to have uſed it.

What he calls "The *true* eſtimate of Human "Life," which has already been mentioned, exhibits only the wrong ſide of the tapeſtry; and being aſked why he did not ſhow the right, he is ſaid to have replied, that he could not. By others it has been told me that this was finiſhed, but that, before there exiſted any copy, it was torn in pieces by a lady's monkey.

Still, is it altogether fair to dreſs up the poet for the man, and to bring the gloomineſs of the "Night Thoughts" to prove the gloomineſs of Young, and to ſhew that his genius, like the genius

genius of Swift, was in ſome meaſure the ſullen inſpiration of diſcontent?

From them who anſwer in the affirmative it ſhould not be concealed that, though "Inviſi-"bilia non decipiunt" appeared upon a deception in Young's grounds, and "Ambulantes "in horto audiêrunt vocem Dei" on a building in his garden, his pariſh was indebted to the good humour of the author of the "Night Thoughts" for an aſſembly and a bowling-green.

Whether you think with me, I know not; but the famous "De mortuis nil niſi bonum," always appeared to me to ſavour more of female weakneſs than of manly reaſon. He that has too much feeling to ſpeak ill of the dead, who, if they cannot defend themſelves, are at leaſt ignorant of his abuſe, will not heſitate by the moſt wanton calumny to deſtroy the quiet, the reputation, the fortune of the living. Yet cenſure is not heard beneath the tomb any more than praiſe. "De mortuis nil niſi ve-"rum—"De vivis nil niſi bonum—" would approach much nearer to good ſenſe. After all, the few handfuls of remaining duſt which once compoſed the body of the author of the "Night

"Thoughts,"

"Thoughts," feel not much concern whether Young paſs now for a man of ſorrow, or for a "fellow of infinite jeſt." To this favour muſt come the whole family of Yorick. His immortal part, wherever that now dwell, is ſtill leſs ſolicitous on this head.

But to a ſon of worth and ſenſibility it is of ſome little conſequence whether contemporaries believe, and poſterity be taught to believe, that his debauched and reprobate life caſt a Stygian gloom over the evening of his father's days, ſaved him the trouble of feigning a character completely deteſtable, and ſucceeded at laſt in bringing his "grey hairs with ſorrow to the "grave."

The humanity of the world, little ſatisfied with inventing perhaps a melancholy diſpoſition for the father, proceeds next to invent an argument in ſupport of their invention, and chooſes that Lorenzo ſhould be Young's own ſon. The Biographia and every account of Young pretty roundly aſſert this to be the fact: of the abſolute impoſſibility of which the Biographia itſelf, in particular dates, contains undeniable evidence. Readers I know there are of a ſtrange turn of mind, who will hereafter peruſe the

"Night

"Night Thoughts" with leſs ſatisfaction; who will wiſh they had ſtill been deceived; who will quarrel with me for diſcovering that no ſuch character as their Lorenzo ever yet diſgraced human nature, or broke a father's heart. Yet would theſe admirers of the ſublime and terrible be offended, ſhould you ſet them down for cruel and for ſavage.

Of this report, inhuman to the ſurviving ſon, if it be true, in proportion as the character of Lorenzo is diabolical, where are we to find the proof? Perhaps it is clear from the poems.

From the firſt line to the laſt of the "Night "Thoughts," no one expreſſion can be diſcovered which betrays any thing like the father. In the ſecond "Night" I find an expreſſion which betrays ſomething elſe; that Lorenzo was his friend: one, it is poſſible, of his former companions: one of the Duke of Wharton's ſet. The Poet ſtyles him "gay "Friend;" an appellation not very natural from a pious incenſed father to ſuch a being as he paints Lorenzo, and that being his ſon.

But let us ſee how he has ſketched this dreadful portrait, from the ſight of ſome of whoſe features

features the artiſt himſelf muſt have turned away with horror. A ſubject more ſhocking, if his only child really ſat to him, than the crucifixion of Michael Angelo; upon the horrid ſtory told of which, Young compoſed a ſhort Poem of fourteen lines in the early part of his life, which he did not think deſerved to be republiſhed.

In the firſt "Night," the addreſs to the Poet's ſuppoſed ſon is,

Lorenzo, Fortune makes her court to thee.

In the fifth "Night"—

And burns Lorenzo ſtill for the ſublime
Of life? to hang his airy neſt on high?

Is this a picture of the ſon of the rector of Welwyn?

Eighth "Night—"

In foreign realms (for thou haſt travelled far)—

which even now does not apply to his ſon.

In "Night" five—

So

So wept Lorenzo fair Clariſſa's fate,
Who gave that angel-boy on whom he dotes,
And died to give him, orphan'd in his birth?

At the beginning of the fifth "Night" we find—

Lorenzo, to recriminate is juſt,
I grant the man is vain who writes for praiſe.

But, to cut ſhort all enquiry; if any one of theſe paſſages, if any paſſage in the poems be applicable, my friend ſhall paſs for Lorenzo. The ſon of the author of the "Night Thoughts" was not old enough, when they were written, to recriminate, or to be a father. The "Night "Thoughts" were begun immediately after the mournful event of 1741. The firſt "Nights" appear in the books of the company of Stationers, as the property of Robert Dodſley, in 1742. The Preface to "Night" Seven is dated July the 7th, 1744. The marriage, in conſequence of which the ſuppoſed Lorenzo was born, happened in May, 1731. Young's child was not born till June 1733. In 1741 this Lorenzo, this finiſhed infidel, this father to

whoſe education Vice had for ſome years put the laſt hand, was only eight years old.

An anecdote of this cruel ſort, ſo open to contradiction, ſo impoſſible to be true, who could propagate? Thus eaſily are blaſted the reputation of the living and of the dead.

Who then was Lorenzo? exclaim the readers I have mentioned. If we cannot be ſure that he was his ſon, which would have been finely terrible, was he not his nephew, his couſin?

Theſe are queſtions which I do not pretend to anſwer. For the ſake of human nature, I could wiſh Lorenzo to have been only the creation of the Poet's fancy: like the Quintus of Anti-Lucretius, "quo nomine," ſays Polignac, "quemvis Atheum intellige." That this was the caſe, many expreſſions in the "Night "Thoughts" would ſeem to prove, did not a paſſage in "Night" Eight appear to ſhew that he had ſomebody in his eye for the groundwork at leaſt of the painting. Lovelace or Lorenzo may be feigned characters; but a writer does not feign a name of which he only gives the initial letter.

Tell not Caliſta. She will laugh thee dead.
Or ſend thee to her hermitage with L—.

The

The Biographia, not ſatisfied with pointing out the ſon of Young, in that ſon's life-time, as his father's Lorenzo, travels out of its way into the hiſtory of the ſon, and tells of his having been forbidden his college at Oxford for miſbehaviour. How ſuch anecdotes, were they true, tend to illuſtrate the life of Young, it is not eaſy to diſcover. Was the ſon of the author of the "Night Thoughts" indeed forbidden his college for a time, at one of our Univerſities? The author of "Paradiſe Loſt" is by ſome ſuppoſed to have been diſgracefully ejected from the other. From juvenile follies who is free? But, whatever the Biographia chooſe to relate, the ſon of Young experienced no diſmiſſion from his college either laſting or temporary.

Yet, were nature to indulge him with a ſecond youth, and to leave him at the ſame time the experience of that which is paſt, he would probably ſpend it differently—who would not?—he would certainly be the occaſion of leſs uneaſineſs to his father. But, from the ſame experience, he would as certainly, in the ſame caſe, be treated differently by his father.

Young was a poet: poets, with reverence be it ſpoken, do not make the beſt parents. Fancy and imagination ſeldom deign to ſtoop from their heights; always ſtoop unwillingly to the low level of common duties. Aloof from vulgar life, they purſue their rapid flight beyond the ken of mortals, and deſcend not to earth but when compelled by neceſſity. The proſe of ordinary occurrences is beneath the dignity of poets.

He, who is connected with the Author of the "Night Thoughts," only by veneration for the Poet and the Chriſtian, may be allowed to obſerve, that Young is one of thoſe, concerning whom, as you remark in your account of Addiſon, it is proper rather to ſay "nothing "that is falſe than all that is true."

But the ſon of Young would almoſt ſooner, I know, paſs for a Lorenzo, than ſee himſelf vindicated, at the expence of his father's memory, from follies which, if it may be thought blameable in a boy to have committed them, it is ſurely praiſe-worthy in a man to lament, and certainly not only unneceſſary but cruel in a biographer to record.

Of

Of the "Night Thoughts," notwithſtanding their author's profeſſed retirement, all are inſcribed to great or to growing names. He had not yet weaned himſelf from Earls and Dukes, from Speakers of the Houſe of Commons, Lords Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, and Chancellors of the Exchequer. In "Night" Eight the politician plainly betrays himſelf——

Think no poſt needful that demands a knave,
When late our civil helm was ſhifting hands,
So P—— thought: think better if you can.

Yet it muſt be confeſſed, that at the concluſion of "Night" Nine, weary perhaps of courting earthly patrons, he tells his ſoul,

Henceforth
Thy *patron* he, whoſe diadem has dropt
Yon gems of heaven; Eternity thy prize;
And leave the racers of the world their own.

The Fourth "Night" was addreſſed by "a "much-indebted Muſe" to the Honourable Mr. Yorke, now Lord Hardwicke; who meant to have laid the Muſe under ſtill greater obligations, by the living of Shenfield in Eſſex, if it had become vacant.

The firſt "Night" concludes with this paſſage———

Dark, though not blind, like thee, Meonides;
Or Milton, thee. Ah! could I reach your ſtrain:
Or his who made Meonides our own!
Man too he ſung. Immortal man I ſing.
Oh had he preſt his theme, purſued the track
Which opens out of darkneſs into day!
Oh had he mounted on his wing of fire,
Soar'd, where I ſink, and ſung immortal man—
How had it bleſt mankind, and reſcued me!

To the author of theſe lines was dedicated, in 1756, the firſt volume of an "Eſſay on the "Writings and Genius of Pope," which attempted, whether juſtly or not, to pluck from Pope his "Wing of Fire," and to reduce him to a rank at leaſt one degree lower than the firſt claſs of Engliſh poets. If Young accepted and approved the dedication, he countenanced this attack upon the fame of him whom he invokes as his Muſe.

Part of "paper-ſparing" Pope's Third Book of the "Odyſſey," depoſited in the Muſeum, is written upon the back of a letter ſigned E. Young, which is clearly the hand-writing of

our

our Young. The Letter, dated only May the 2d, ſeems obſcure; but there can be little doubt that the friendſhip he requeſts was a literary one, and that he had the higheſt literary opinion of Pope. The requeſt was a prologue, I am told.

"Dear Sir, May the 2d.

"Having been often from home, I know "not if you have done me the favour of calling "on me. But, be that as it will, I much want "that inſtance of your friendſhip I mentioned "in my laſt; a friendſhip I am very ſenſible "I can receive from no one but yourſelf. I "ſhould not urge this thing ſo much but for "very particular reaſons; nor can you be at a "loſs to conceive how a 'trifle of this nature' "may be of ſerious moment to me; and while "I am in hopes of the great advantage of your "advice about it, I ſhall not be ſo abſurd as "to make any further ſtep without it. I know "you are much engaged, and only hope to "hear of you at your entire leiſure.

"I am, Sir, your moſt faithful
"and obedient ſervant,
"E. YOUNG."

Nay, even after Pope's death, he ſays, in "Night" Seven:

Pope, who could'ſt make immortals, art thou dead?

Either the "Eſſay," then, was dedicated to a patron who diſapproved its doctrine, which I have been told by the author was not the caſe; or Young appears, in his old age, to have bartered for a dedication an opinion entertained of his friend through all that part of life when he muſt have been beſt able to form opinions.

From this account of Young, two or three ſhort paſſages, which ſtand almoſt together in "Night" Four, ſhould not be excluded. They afford a picture, by his own hand, from the ſtudy of which my readers may chooſe to form their own opinion of the features of his mind and the complexion of his life.

Ah me! the dire effect
Of loitering here, of death defrauded long;
Of old ſo gracious (and let that ſuffice),
My very maſter knows me not.

*

I've been ſo long remember'd, I'm forgot.

When

*

When in his courtiers' ears I pour my plaint,
They drink it as the Nectar of the Great;
And ſqueeze my hand, and beg me come to-morrow.

*

Twice told the period ſpent on ſtubborn Troy,
Court-favour, yet untaken, I *beſiege*.

*

If this ſong lives, Poſterity ſhall know
One, though in Britain born, with courtiers bred,
Who thought ev'n gold might come a day too late;
Nor on his ſubtle death-bed plann'd his ſcheme
For future vacancies in church or ſtate.

Deduct from the writer's age "twice told the "period ſpent on ſtubborn Troy," and you will ſtill leave him more than forty when he ſate down to the miſerable ſiege of court favour. He has before told us

"A fool at forty is a fool indeed."

After all, the ſiege ſeems to have been raiſed only in conſequence of what the General thought his "death-bed."

By

By theſe extraordinary Poems, written after he was ſixty, of which I have been led to ſay ſo much, I hope by the wiſh of doing juſtice to the living and the dead, it was the deſire of Young to be principally known. He entitled the four volumes which he publiſhed himſelf, "The Works of the Author of the Night "Thoughts." While it is remembered that from theſe he excluded many of his writings, let it not be forgotten that the rejected pieces contained nothing prejudicial to the cauſe of virtue, or of religion. Were every thing that Young ever wrote to be publiſhed, he would only appear perhaps in a leſs reſpectable light as a poet, and more deſpicable as a dedicator: he would not paſs for a worſe Chriſtian, or for a worſe man. This enviable praiſe is due to Young. Can it be claimed by every writer? His dedications, after all, he had perhaps no right to ſuppreſs. They all, I believe, ſpeak, not a little to the credit of his gratitude, of favours received; and I know not whether the author, who has once ſolemnly printed an acknowledgement of a favour, ſhould not always print it.

Is

Is it to the credit or to the diſcredit of Young, as a poet, that of his "Night Thoughts" the French are particularly fond?

Of the "Epitaph on Lord Aubrey Beauclerk," dated 1740, all I know is, that I find it in the late body of Engliſh Poetry, and that I am ſorry to find it there.

Notwithſtanding the farewell which he ſeemed to have taken in the "Night Thoughts" of every thing which bore the leaſt reſemblance to ambition, he dipped again in politics. In 1745 he wrote "Reflections on the publick Situation "of the Kingdom, addreſſed to the Duke of "Newcaſtle;" indignant, as it appears, to behold

—a pope-bred Princeling crawl aſhore,
And whiſtle cut-throats, with thoſe ſwords that ſcrap'd
Their barren rocks for wretched ſuſtenance,
To cut his paſſage to the Britiſh throne.

This political poem might be called a "Night "Thought." Indeed it was originally printed as the concluſion of the "Night Thoughts," though he did not gather it with his other works.

Prefixed

Prefixed to the ſecond edition of Howe's "Devout Meditations" is a Letter from Young, dated January 19, 1752, addreſſed to Archibald Macauly, Eſq; thanking him for the book, which he ſays "he ſhall never lay far out of his "reach; for a greater demonſtration of a ſound "head and a ſincere heart he never ſaw."

In 1753, when "The Brothers" had lain by him above thirty years, it appeared upon the ſtage. If any part of his fortune had been acquired by ſervility of adulation, he now determined to deduct from it no inconſiderable ſum, as a gift to the Society for the Propagation of the Goſpel. To this ſum he hoped the profits of "The Brothers" would amount. In his calculation he was deceived; but by the bad ſucceſs of his play the Society was not a loſer. The author made up the ſum he originally intended, which was a thouſand pounds, from his own pocket.

The next performance which he printed was a proſe publication, entituled, "The Centaur "not fabulous, in ſix Letters to a Friend on "the Life in Vogue." The concluſion is dated November 29, 1754. In the third Letter is deſcribed the death-bed of the "gay, young, "noble,

"noble, ingenious, accompliſhed, and moſt "wretched Altamont." His laſt words were— "My principles have poiſoned my friend, my "extravagance has beggared my boy, my un- "kindneſs has murdered my wife!" Either Altamont and Lorenzo were the twin production of fancy, or Young was unlucky enough to know two characters who bore no little reſemblance to each other in perfection of wickedneſs. Report has been accuſtomed to call Altamont Lord Euſton.

"The Old Man's Relapſe," occaſioned by an Epiſtle to Walpole, if written by Young, which I much doubt, muſt have been written very late in life. It has been ſeen, I am told, in a Miſcellany publiſhed thirty years before his death. In 1758, he exhibited "The Old "Man's Relapſe" in more than words, by again becoming a dedicator, and publiſhing a ſermon addreſſed to the King.

The lively Letter in proſe on "Original "Compoſition," addreſſed to Richardſon the author of Clariſſa, appeared in 1759. Though he deſpair "of breaking through the frozen ob- "ſtructions of age and care's incumbent cloud, "into that flow of thought and brightneſs of

"expreſſion

" expreſſion which ſubjects ſo polite require ;" yet is it more like the production of untamed, unbridled youth, than of jaded fourſcore. Some ſevenfold volumes put him in mind of Ovid's ſevenfold channels of the Nile at the conflagration.

——————oſtia ſeptem
Pulverulenta vocant, ſeptem ſine flumine valles.

Such leaden labours are like Lycurgus's iron money, which was ſo much leſs in value than in bulk, that it required barns for ſtrong boxes, and a yoke of oxen to draw five hundred pounds.

If there is a famine of invention in the land, we muſt travel, he ſays, like Joſeph's brethren, far for food ; we muſt viſit the remote and rich antients. But an inventive genius may ſafely ſtay at home ; that, like the widow's cruſe, is divinely repleniſhed from within, and affords us a miraculous delight. He aſks why it ſhould ſeem altogether impoſſible, that Heaven's lateſt editions of the human mind may be the moſt correct and fair ? And Jonſon, he tells us, was very learned, as Sampſon was very ſtrong, to his own hurt. Blind to the nature of tragedy,

gedy, he pulled down all antiquity on his head, and buried himſelf under it.

Is this "care's incumbent cloud," or "the "frozen obſtructions of age?"

In this letter Pope is ſeverely cenſured for his "fall from Homer's numbers, free as air, lofty "and harmonious as the ſpheres, into childiſh "ſhackles and tinkling ſounds; for putting "Achilles in petticoats a ſecond time:" but we are told that the dying ſwan talked over an Epic plan with Young a few weeks before his deceaſe.

Young's chief inducement to write this letter was, as he confeſſes, that he might erect a monumental marble to the memory of an old friend. He, who employed his pious pen for almoſt the laſt time in thus doing juſtice to the exemplary death-bed of Addiſon, might probably, at the cloſe of his own life, afford no unuſeful leſſon for the deaths of others.

In the poſtſcript he writes to Richardſon, that he will ſee in his next how far Addiſon is an original. But no other letter appears.

The few lines which ſtand in the laſt edition, as "ſent by Lord Melcombe to Dr. Young, "not long before his Lordſhip's death," were indeed

indeed ſo ſent, but were only an introduction to what was there meant by "The Muſe's "lateſt Spark." The poem is neceſſary, whatever may be its merit, ſince the Preface to it is already printed. Lord Melcombe called his Tuſculum "La Trappe."

"Love thy country, wiſh it well,
Not with too intenſe a care,
'Tis enough, that, when it fell,
Thou its ruin didſt not ſhare.

Envy's cenſure, Flattery's praiſe,
With unmov'd indifference view;
Learn to tread Life's dangerous maze,
With unerring Virtue's clue.

Void of ſtrong deſire and fear,
Life's wide ocean truſt no more;
Strive thy little bark to ſteer
With the tide, but near the ſhore.

Thus prepar'd, thy ſhorten'd ſail
Shall, whene'er the winds increaſe,
Seizing each propitious gale,
Waft thee to the Port of Peace.

Keep thy conſcience from offence,
And tempeſtuous paſſions free,
So, when thou art call'd from hence,
Eaſy ſhall thy paſſage be;

Eaſy ſhall thy paſſage be,
Chearful thy allotted ſtay,
Short the account 'twixt God and thee;
Hope ſhall meet thee on the way;

Truth ſhall lead thee to the gate,
Mercy's ſelf ſhall let thee in,
Where its never-changing ſtate
Full perfection ſhall begin."

The Poem was accompanied by a Letter.

"*La Trappe*, the 27th of Oct. 1761.

"Dear Sir,

"You ſeemed to like the ode I ſent you for "your amuſement; I now ſend it you as a pre-"ſent. If you pleaſe to accept of it, and are "willing that our friendſhip ſhould be known "when we are gone, you will be pleaſed to "leave this among thoſe of your own papers "that may poſſibly ſee the light by a poſt-"humous publication. God ſend us health "while we ſtay, and an eaſy journey!

"My dear Dr. Young,

"Yours, moſt cordially,

"MELCOMBE."

In 1762, a ſhort time before his death, Young publiſhed "Reſignation." Notwithſtanding the manner in which it was really forced from him by the world, criticiſm has treated it with no common ſeverity. If it ſhall be thought not to deſerve the higheſt praiſe, on the other ſide of fourſcore, by whom, except by Newton and by Waller, has praiſe been merited?

To Mrs. Montagu, the famous champion of Shakſpeare, I am indebted for the hiſtory of "Reſignation." Obſerving that Mrs. Boſcawen, in the midſt of her grief for the loſs of the admiral, derived conſolation from the peruſal of the "Night Thoughts," Mrs. Montagu propoſed a viſit to the author. From converſing with Young, Mrs. Boſcawen derived ſtill further conſolation; and to that viſit ſhe and the world were indebted for this poem. It compliments Mrs. Montagu in the following lines:

Yet, write I muſt. A Lady ſues,
How ſhameful her requeſt!
My brain in labour with dull rhyme,
Her's teeming with the beſt!

And

And again———

A friend you have, and I the ſame,
Whoſe prudent ſoft addreſs
Will bring to life thoſe healing thoughts
Which died in your diſtreſs.

That friend, the ſpirit of my theme
Extracting for your eaſe,
Will leave to me the dreg, in thoughts
Too common; ſuch as theſe.

By the ſame Lady I am enabled to ſay, in her own words, that Young's unbounded genius appeared to greater advantage in the companion, than even in the author; that the Chriſtian was in him a character ſtill more inſpired, more enraptured, more ſublime than the poet; and that, in his ordinary converſation,

—letting down the golden chain from high,
He drew his audience upward to the ſky.

Notwithſtanding Young had ſaid, in his "Conjectures on original Compoſition," that "blank verſe is verſe unfallen, uncurſt; verſe "reclaimed, re-inthroned in the true language "of the Gods:" notwithſtanding he admi-

niſtered conſolation to his own grief in this immortal language, Mrs. Boſcawen was comforted in rhyme.

While the poet and the Chriſtian were applying this comfort, Young had himſelf occaſion for comfort, in conſequence of the ſudden death of Richardſon, who was printing the former part of the poem. Of Richardſon's death he ſays——

When heaven would kindly ſet us free,
And earth's enchantment end;
It takes the moſt effectual means,
And robs us of a friend.

To "Reſignation" was prefixed an Apology for its appearance: to which more credit is due than to the generality of ſuch apologies, from Young's unuſual anxiety that no more productions of his old age ſhould diſgrace his former fame. In his will, dated February 1760, he deſires of his executors, *in a particular manner*, that all his manuſcript books and writings whatever might be burned, except his book of accounts.

In September 1764 he added a kind of codicil, wherein he made it his dying intreaty to his

his houſekeeper, to whom he left 1000*l.* "that "all his manuſcripts might be deſtroyed as ſoon "as he was dead, which would greatly oblige "her deceaſed *friend.*"

It may teach mankind the uncertainty of worldly friendſhips, to know that Young, either by ſurviving thoſe he loved, or by outliving their affections, could only recollect the names of two *friends*, his houſekeeper and a hatter, to mention in his will; and it may ſerve to repreſs that teſtamentary pride, which too often ſeeks for ſounding names and titles, to be informed that the author of the "Night "Thoughts" did not bluſh to leave a legacy to his "friend Henry Stevens, a hatter at the "Temple-gate." Of theſe two remaining friends, one went before Young. But, at eighty-four "where," as he aſks in *The Centaur* "is that world into which we were "born?"

The ſame humility which marked a hatter and a houſekeeper for the friends of the author of the "Night Thoughts," had before beſtowed the ſame title on his footman, in an epitaph in his "Church-yard" upon James

Barker, dated 1749; which I am glad to find in the late collection of his works.

Young and his houſekeeper were ridiculed, with more ill-nature than wit, in a kind of novel publiſhed by Kidgell in 1755, called "The Card," under the names of Dr. Elwes and Mrs. Fuſby.

In April 1765, at an age to which few attain, a period was put to the life of Young.

He had performed no duty for three or four years, but he retained his intellects to the laſt.

Much is told in the "Biographia," which I know not to have been true, of the manner of his burial: of the maſter and children of a charity-ſchool, which he founded in his pariſh, who neglected to attend their benefactor's corpſe; and of a bell which was not cauſed to toll as often as upon thoſe occaſions bells uſually toll. Had that humanity, which is here laviſhed upon things of little conſequence either to the living or to the dead, been ſhewn in its proper place to the living, I ſhould have had leſs to ſay about Lorenzo. They who lament that theſe misfortunes happened to Young, forget the praiſe he beſtows upon Socrates, in the

the Preface to "Night" Seven, for reſenting his friend's requeſt about his funeral.

During ſome part of his life Young was abroad, but I have not been able to learn any particulars.

In his ſeventh Satire he ſays,

When, after battle, I the field have SEEN
Spread o'er with ghaſtly ſhapes which once were *men*.

It is known alſo, that from this or from ſome other field he once wandered into the camp, with a claſſic in his hand, which he was reading intently; and had ſome difficulty to prove that he was only an abſent poet, and not a ſpy.

The curious reader of Young's life will naturally inquire to what it was owing, that, though he lived almoſt forty years after he took Orders, which included one whole reign uncommonly long, and part of another, he was never thought worthy of the leaſt preferment. The author of the "Night Thoughts" ended his days upon a Living which came to him from his College without any favour, and to which he probably had an eye when he determined on the Church. To ſatisfy curioſity of this

kind is, at this diſtance of time, far from eaſy. The parties themſelves know not often, at the inſtant, why they are neglected, or why they are preferred. The neglect of Young is by ſome aſcribed to his having attached himſelf to the Prince of Wales, and to his having preached an offenſive ſermon at St. James's. It has been told me that he had two hundred a year in the late reign, by the patronage of Walpole; and that, whenever any one reminded the King of Young, the only anſwer was, "he has a penſion." All the light thrown on this inquiry, by the following Letter from Secker, only ſerves to ſhew at what a late period of life the author of the "Night Thoughts" ſolicited preferment:

"Deanery of St. Paul's, July 8, 1758.

"Good Dr. Young,

"I have long wondered, that more ſuitable "notice of your great merit hath not been "taken by perſons in power. But how to re- "medy the omiſſion I ſee not. No encourage- "ment hath ever been given me to mention "things of this nature to his Majeſty. And "therefore, in all likelihood, the only conſe-

"quence

" quence of doing it would be weakening the
" little influence, which elſe I may poſſibly have
" on ſome other occaſions. Your fortune and
" your reputation ſet you above the need of
" advancement; and your ſentiments, above
" that concern for it, on your own account,
" which, on that of the Public, is ſincerely
" felt by,

" Your loving Brother,

" THO. CANT."

At laſt at the age of fourſcore, he was appointed, in 1761, Clerk of the Cloſet to the Princeſs Dowager.

One obſtacle muſt have ſtood not a little in the way of that preferment after which his whole life ſeems to have panted. Though he took Orders, he never intirely ſhook off Politicks. He was always the Lion of his maſter Milton, " pawing to get free his hinder parts." By this conduct, if he gained ſome friends, he made many enemies.

Again, Young was a poet; and again, with reverence be it ſpoken, poets by profeſſion do not always make the beſt clergymen. If the author of the " Night Thoughts" compoſed many

many ſermons, he did not oblige the publick with many.

Beſides, in the latter part of life, Young was fond of holding himſelf out for a man retired from the world. But he ſeemed to have forgotten that the ſame verſe which contains "ob-" litus meorum," contains alſo "obliviſcen-" dus & illis." The brittle chain of worldly friendſhip and patronage is broken as effectually, when one goes beyond the length of it, as when the other does. To the veſſel which is ſailing from the ſhore, it only appears that the ſhore alſo recedes; in life it is truly thus. He who retires from the world will find himſelf, in reality, deſerted as faſt, if not faſter, by the world. The publick is not to be treated as the coxcomb treats his miſtreſs; to be threatened with deſertion, in order to increaſe fondneſs.

Young ſeems to have been taken at his word. Notwithſtanding his frequent complaints of being neglected, no hand was reached out to pull him from that retirement of which he declared himſelf enamoured. Alexander aſſigned no palace for the reſidence of Diogenes, who boaſted his ſurly ſatisfaction with his tub.

Of

Of the domeſtick manners and petty habits of the Author of the "Night Thoughts," I hoped to have given you an account from the beſt authority: but who ſhall dare to ſay, To-morrow I will be wiſe or virtuous, or to-morrow I will do a particular thing? Upon enquiring for his houſekeeper, I learned that ſhe was buried two days before I reached the town of her abode.

In a Letter from Tſcharner, a noble foreigner, to Count Haller, Tſcharner ſays, he has lately ſpent four days with Young at Welwyn, where the author taſtes all the eaſe and pleaſure mankind can deſire. "Every thing "about him ſhews the man, each individual "being placed by rule. All is neat without art "He is very pleaſant in converſation, and ex-"tremely polite."

This, and more, may poſſibly be true, but Tſcharner's was a firſt viſit, a viſit of curioſity and admiration, and a viſit which the author expected.

Of Edward Young an anecdote which wanders among readers is not true, that he was Fielding's Parſon Adams. The original of that famous painting was William Young, who was a clergyman. He ſupported an uncomfortable exiſtence by tranſ-

lating

lating for the bookſellers from Greek; and, if he did not ſeem to be his own friend, was at leaſt no man's enemy. Yet the facility with which this report has gained belief in the world, argues, were it not ſufficiently known, that the author of the "Night Thoughts" bore ſome reſemblance to Adams.

The attention which Young beſtowed upon the peruſal of books is not unworthy imitation. When any paſſage pleaſed him, he appears to have folded down the leaf. On theſe paſſages he beſtowed a ſecond reading. But the labours of man are too frequently vain. Before he returned to much of what he had once approved, he died. Many of his books, which I have ſeen, are by thoſe notes of approbation ſo ſwelled beyond their real bulk, that they will hardly ſhut.

> What though we wade in wealth, or ſoar in fame!
> Earth's higheſt ſtation ends in *Here he lies!*
> And *duſt to duſt* concludes her nobleſt ſong.

The author of theſe lines is not without his *Hic jacet*.

By the good ſenſe of his ſon, it contains none of that praiſe which no marble can make the

the bad or the fooliſh merit; which, without the direction of a ſtone or a turf, will find its way, ſooner or later, to the deſerving.

M. S.
Optimi parentis
EDWARDI YOUNG, LL. D.
Hujus Eccleſiæ rect.
Et Elizabethæ
fæm. prænob.
Conjugis ejus amantiſſimæ
Pio & gratiſſimo animo
Hoc marmor poſuit
F. Y.
Filius ſuperſtes.

Is it not ſtrange that the author of the "Night "Thoughts" has inſcribed no monument to the memory of his lamented wife? Yet, what marble will endure as long as the poems?

Such, my good friend, is the account which I have been able to collect of the great Young. That it may be long before any thing like what I have juſt tranſcribed be neceſſary for you, is the ſincere wiſh of,

Dear Sir,

Your greatly obliged Friend,

HERBERT CROFT, Jun.

Lincoln's Inn,
Sept. 1780.

P. S.

P. S. This account of Young was ſeen by you in manuſcript, you know, Sir; and, though I could not prevail on you to make any alterations, you inſiſted on ſtriking out one paſſage, becauſe it ſaid, that, if I did not wiſh you to live long for your ſake, I did for the ſake of myſelf and of the world. But this poſtſcript you will not ſee before the printing of it; and I will ſay here, in ſpite of you, how I feel myſelf honoured and bettered by your friendſhip: and that, if I do credit to the church, after which I always longed, and for which I am now going to give in exchange the bar, though not at ſo late a period of life as Young took orders, it will be owing, in no ſmall meaſure, to my having had the happineſs of calling the author of "The Rambler" my friend.

Oxford,
Sept. 1782.

H. C."

OF Young's Poems it is difficult to give any general character; for he has no uniformity of manner: one of his pieces has no great reſemblance to another. He began to write early, and continued long; and at different times had different modes of poetical excellence in view. His numbers are ſometimes ſmooth, and ſometimes rugged; his ſtyle is ſometimes concatenated, and ſometimes abrupt; ſometimes diffuſive, and ſometimes conciſe. His plan ſeems to have ſtarted in his mind at the preſent moment, and his thoughts appear the effect of chance, ſometimes adverſe, and ſometimes lucky, with very little operation of judgement.

He was not one of the writers whom experience improves, and who obſerving their own faults become gradually correct. His Poem on the "Laſt Day," his firſt great performance, has an equability and propriety, which he afterwards either never endeavoured or never attained. Many paragraphs are noble, and few are mean, yet the whole is languid; the plan is too much extended, and a ſucceſſion of images divides and weakens the general conception;

tion; but the great reaſon why the reader is diſappointed is, that the thought of the LAST DAY makes every man more than poetical, by ſpreading over his mind a general obſcurity of ſacred horror, that oppreſſes diſtinction, and diſdains expreſſion.

His ſtory of "Jane Grey" was never popular. It is written with elegance enough, but Jane is too heroic to be pitied.

The "Univerſal Paſſion" is indeed a very great performance. It is ſaid to be a ſeries of Epigrams: but if it be, it is what the author intended: his endeavour was at the production of ſtriking diſtichs and pointed ſentences; and his diſtichs have the weight of ſolid ſentiment, and his points the ſharpneſs of reſiſtleſs truth.

His characters are often ſelected with diſcernment, and drawn with nicety; his illuſtrations are often happy, and his reflections often juſt. His ſpecies of ſatire is between thoſe of Horace and Juvenal; and he has the gaiety of Horace without his laxity of numbers, and the morality of Juvenal with greater variation of images. He plays, indeed, only on the ſurface of life; he never penetrates the receſſes of the mind, and therefore the whole

power

power of his poetry is exhauſted by a ſingle peruſal; his conceits pleaſe only when they ſurpriſe.

To tranſlate he never condeſcended, unleſs his "Paraphraſe on Job" may be conſidered as a verſion; in which he has not, I think, been unſucceſsful; he indeed favoured himſelf, by chuſing thoſe parts which moſt eaſily admit the ornaments of Engliſh poetry.

He had leaſt ſucceſs in his lyric attempts, in which he ſeems to have been under ſome malignant influence: he is always labouring to be great, and at laſt is only turgid.

In his "Night Thoughts" he has exhibited a very wide diſplay of original poetry, variegated with deep reflections and ſtriking alluſions, a wilderneſs of thought, in which the fertility of fancy ſcatters flowers of every hue and of every odour. This is one of the few poems in which blank verſe could not be changed for rhyme but with diſadvantage. The wild diffuſion of the ſentiments, and the digreſſive ſallies of imagination, would have been compreſſed and reſtrained by confinement to rhyme. The excellence of this work is not exactneſs but copiouſneſs; particular lines are

not to be regarded; the power is in the whole, and in the whole there is a magnificence like that aſcribed to Chineſe plantation, the magnificence of vaſt extent and endleſs diverſity.

His laſt poem was the "Reſignation;" in which he made, as he was accuſtomed, an experiment of a new mode of writing, and ſucceeded better than in his "Ocean" or his "Merchant." It was very falſely repreſented as a proof of decaying faculties. There is Young in every ſtanza, ſuch as he often was in his higheſt vigour.

His tragedies not making part of the Collection, I had forgotten, till Mr. Steevens recalled them to my thoughts by remarking, that he ſeemed to have one favourite cataſtrophe, as his three Plays all concluded with laviſh ſuicide; a method by which, as Dryden remarked, a poet eaſily rids his ſcene of perſons whom he wants not to keep alive. In "Buſiris" there are the greateſt ebullitions of imagination; but the pride of Buſiris is ſuch as no other man can have, and the whole is too remote from known life to raiſe either grief, terror, or indignation. The "Revenge" approaches much nearer to human practices and manners, and there-

therefore keeps poſſeſſion of the ſtage: the firſt deſign ſeems ſuggeſted by "Othello;" but the reflections, the incidents, and the diction, are original. The moral obſervations are ſo introduced, and ſo expreſſed, as to have all the novelty that can be required. Of "The Bro-"thers" I may be allowed to ſay nothing, ſince nothing was ever ſaid of it by the publick.

It muſt be allowed of Young's poetry, that it abounds in thought, but without much accuracy or ſelection. When he lays hold of an illuſtration, he purſues it beyond expectation, ſometimes happily, as in his parallel of *Quick-ſilver* with *Pleaſure*, which I have heard repeated with approbation by a Lady, of whoſe praiſe he would have been juſtly proud, and which is very ingenious, very ſubtle, and almoſt exact; but ſometimes he is leſs lucky, as when, in his "Night Thoughts," having it dropped into his mind, that the orbs, floating in ſpace, might be called the *cluſter* of creation, he thinks on a cluſter of grapes, and ſays, that they all hang on the great vine, drinking the "nectareous juice of immortal life."

His conceits are ſometimes yet leſs valuable. In the "Laſt Day," he hopes to illuſtrate the re-

aſſembly of the atoms that compoſe the human body at the "Trump of Doom," by the collection of bees into a ſwarm at the tinkling of a pan.

The Prophet ſays of Tyre, that "her Mer-"chants are Princes." Young ſays of Tyre in his "Merchant,"

Her merchants Princes, and each *deck a Throne.*

Let burleſque try to go beyond him.

He has the trick of joining the turgid and familiar: to buy the alliance of Britain, "Climes "were paid down." Antitheſis is his favourite. "They for kindneſs hate;" and "becauſe "ſhe's right, ſhe's ever in the wrong."

His verſification is his own, neither his blank nor his rhyming lines have any reſemblance to thoſe of former writers; he picks up no hemiſtichs, he copies no favourite expreſſions; he ſeems to have laid up no ſtores of thought or diction, but to owe all to the fortuitous ſuggeſtions of the preſent moment. Yet I have reaſon to believe that, when once he had formed a new deſign, he then laboured it with very patient induſtry, and that he compoſed with great labour, and frequent reviſions.

His

His verſes are formed by no certain model; he is no more like himſelf in his different productions than he is like others. He ſeems neer to have ſtudied proſody, nor to have had any direction but from his own ear. But with all his defects, he was a man of genius and a poet.

MALLET.

OF DAVID MALLET, having no written memorial, I am able to give no other account than ſuch as is ſupplied by the unauthoriſed loquacity of common fame, and a very ſlight perſonal knowledge.

He was by his original one of the Macgregors, a clan, that became, about ſixty years ago, under the conduct of Robin Roy, ſo formidable and ſo infamous for violence and robbery, that the name was annulled by a legal abolition; and when they were all to denominate themſelves anew, the father, I ſuppoſe, of this author, called himſelf Malloch.

David Malloch was, by the penury of his parents, compelled to be *Janitor* of the High School

School at Edinburgh; a mean office, of which he did not afterwards delight to hear. But he ſurmounted the diſadvantages of his birth and fortune; for when the Duke of Montroſe applied to the College of Edinburgh for a tutor to educate his ſons, Malloch was recommended; and I never heard that he diſhonoured his credentials.

When his pupils were ſent to ſee the world, they were entruſted to his care; and having conducted them round the common circle of modiſh travels, he returned with them to London, where, by the influence of the family in which he reſided, he naturally gained admiſſion to many perſons of the higheſt rank, and the higheſt character, to wits, nobles, and ſtateſmen.

Of his works, I know not whether I can trace the ſeries. His firſt production was "William and Margaret*;" of which, though it contains nothing very ſtriking or difficult, he has been envied the reputation; and pla-

* Mallet's "William and Margaret" was printed in Aaron Hill's "Plain Dealer," N° 36, July 24, 1724. In its original ſtate it was very different from what it is in the laſt edition of his works. Dr. J.

giariſm has been boldly charged, but never proved.

Not long afterwards he publiſhed the "Ex-"curſion" (1728); a deſultory and capricious view of ſuch ſcenes of Nature as his fancy led him, or his knowledge enabled him, to deſcribe. It is not devoid of poetical ſpirit. Many of the images are ſtriking, and many of the paragraphs are elegant. The caſt of diction ſeems to be copied from Thomſon, whoſe "Seaſons" were then in their full bloſſom of reputation. He has Thomſon's beauties and his faults.

His poem on "Verbal Criticiſm" (1733) was written to pay court to Pope, on a ſubject which he either did not underſtand or willingly miſrepreſented; and is little more than an improvement, or rather expanſion, of a fragment which Pope printed in a Miſcellany long before he engrafted it into a regular poem. There is in this piece more pertneſs than wit, and more confidence than knowledge. The verſification is tolerable, nor can criticiſm allow it a higher praiſe.

His firſt tragedy was "Eurydice," acted at Drury Lane in 1731; of which I know not the

the reception nor the merit, but have heard it mentioned as a mean performance. He was not then too high to accept a Prologue and Epilogue from Aaron Hill, neither of which can be much commended.

Having cleared his tongue from his native pronunciation ſo as to be no longer diſtinguiſhed as a Scot, he ſeems inclined to diſencumber himſelf from all adherences of his original, and took upon him to change his name from Scotch *Malloch* to Engliſh *Mallet*, without any imaginable reaſon of preference which the eye or ear can diſcover. What other proofs he gave of diſreſpect to his native country, I know not; but it was remarked of him, that he was the only Scot whom Scotchmen did not commend.

About this time Pope, whom he viſited familiarly, publiſhed his "Eſſay on Man," but concealed the author; and when Mallet entered one day, Pope aſked him ſlightly what there was new. Mallet told him, that the neweſt piece was ſomething called an "Eſſay on "Man," which he had inſpected idly, and ſeeing the utter inability of the author, who had neither ſkill in writing nor knowledge of his

his ſubject, had toſſed it away. Pope, to puniſh his ſelf-conceit, told him the ſecret.

A new edition of the works of Bacon being prepared (1740) for the preſs, Mallet was employed to prefix a Life, which he has written with elegance, perhaps with ſome affectation; but with ſo much more knowledge of hiſtory than of ſcience, that when he afterwards undertook the Life of Marlborough, Warburton remarked, that he might perhaps forget that Marlborough was a general, as he had forgotten that Bacon was a philoſopher.

When the Prince of Wales was driven from the palace, and, ſetting himſelf at the head of the oppoſition, kept a ſeparate court, he endeavoured to encreaſe his popularity by the patronage of literature, and made Mallet his under-ſecretary, with a ſalary of two hundred pounds a year; Thomſon likewiſe had a penſion; and they were aſſociated in the compoſition of the "Maſque of Alfred," which in its original ſtate was played at Cliefden in 1740; it was afterwards almoſt wholly changed by Mallet, and brought upon the ſtage at Drury Lane in 1751, but with no great ſucceſs.

Mal-

Mallet, in a familiar converſation with Garrick, diſcourſing of the diligence which he was then exerting upon the "Life of Marlborough," let him know that in the ſeries of great men, quickly to be exhibited, he ſhould *find a nich* for the hero of the theatre. Garrick profeſſed to wonder by what artifice he could be introduced; but Mallet let him know, that, by a dexterous anticipation, he ſhould fix him in a conſpicuous place. "Mr. Mallet," ſays Garrick, in his gratitude of exultation, "have you "left off to write for the ſtage?" Mallet then confeſſed that he had a drama in his hands. Garrick promiſed to act it: and "Alfred" was produced.

The long retardation of the Life of the duke of Marlborough ſhews, with ſtrong conviction, how little confidence can be placed in poſthumous renown. When he died, it was ſoon determined that his ſtory ſhould be delivered to poſterity; and the papers ſuppoſed to contain the neceſſary information were delivered to the lord Moleſworth, who had been his favourite in Flanders. When Moleſworth died, the ſame papers were transferred with the ſame deſign to Sir Richard Steele, who in ſome of his

his exigences put them in pawn. They then remained with the old dutcheſs, who in her will aſſigned the taſk to Glover and Mallet, with a reward of a thouſand pounds, and a prohibition to inſert any verſes. Glover rejected, I ſuppoſe, with diſdain the legacy, and devolved the whole work upon Mallet; who had from the late duke of Marlborough a penſion to promote his induſtry, and who talked of the diſcoveries which he made; but left not, when he died, any hiſtorical labours behind him.

While he was in the Prince's ſervice he publiſhed "Muſtapha," with a Prologue by Thomſon, not mean, but far inferior to that which he had received from Mallet for "Aga-"memnon." The Epilogue, ſaid to be written by a friend, was compoſed in haſte by Mallet, in the place of one promiſed, which was never given. This tragedy was dedicated to the Prince his maſter. It was acted at Drury Lane in 1739, and was well received, but was never revived.

In 1740, he produced, as has been already mentioned, the maſque of "Alfred," in conjunction with Thomſon.

For

For ſome time afterwards he lay at reſt. After a long interval, his next work was "Amyntor and Theodora" (1747), a long ſtory in blank verſe; in which it cannot be denied that there is copiouſneſs and elegance of language, vigour of ſentiment, and imagery well adapted to take poſſeſſion of the fancy. But it is blank verſe. This he ſold to Vaillant for one hundred and twenty pounds. The firſt ſale was not great, and it is now loſt in forgetfulneſs.

Mallet, by addreſs or accident, perhaps by his dependance on the Prince, found his way to Bolingbroke; a man whoſe pride and petulance made his kindneſs difficult to gain, or keep, and whom Mallet was content to court by an act, which, I hope, was unwillingly performed. When it was found that Pope had clandeſtinely printed an unauthoriſed pamphlet called "The Patriot King," Bolingbroke, in a fit of uſeleſs fury, reſolved to blaſt his memory, and employed Mallet (1749) as the executioner of his vengeance. Mallet had not virtue, or had not ſpirit, to refuſe the office; and was rewarded, not long after, with the legacy of lord Bolingbroke's works.

Many

Many of the political pieces had been written during the oppoſition to Walpole, and given to Franklin, as he ſuppoſed, in perpetuity. Theſe, among the reſt, were claimed by the will. The queſtion was referred to arbitrators; but, when they decided againſt Mallet, he refuſed to yield to the award; and by the help of Miller the bookſeller publiſhed all that he could find, but with ſucceſs very much below his expectation.

In 1755, his maſque of "Britannia" was acted at Drury Lane; and his tragedy of "Elvira" in 1763; in which year he was appointed keeper of the Book of Entries for ſhips in the port of London.

In the beginning of the laſt war, when the nation was exaſperated by ill ſucceſs, he was employed to turn the publick vengeance upon Byng, and wrote a letter of accuſation under the character of a "Plain Man." The paper was with great induſtry circulated and diſperſed; and he, for his ſeaſonable intervention, had a conſiderable penſion beſtowed upon him, which he retained to his death

Towards the end of his life he went with his wife to France; but after a while, finding his

his health declining, he returned alone to England, and died in April 1765.

He was twice married, and by his firſt wife had ſeveral children. One daughter, who married an Italian of rank named Cileſia, wrote a tragedy called "Almida," which was acted at Drury Lane. His ſecond wife was the daughter of a nobleman's ſteward, who had a conſiderable fortune, which ſhe took care to retain in her own hands.

His ſtature was diminutive, but he was regularly formed; his appearance, till he grew corpulent, was agreeable, and he ſuffered it to want no recommendation that dreſs could give it. His converſation was elegant and eaſy. The reſt of his character may, without injury to his memory, ſink into ſilence.

As a writer, he cannot be placed in any high claſs. There is no ſpecies of compoſition in which he was eminent. His Dramas had their day, a ſhort day, and are forgotten: his blank verſe ſeems to my ear the echo of Thomſon. His "Life of Bacon" is known as it is appended to Bacon's volumes, but is no longer mentioned. His works are ſuch as a writer, buſtling in the world, ſhewing himſelf in publick,

lick, and emerging occaſionally from time to time into notice, might keep alive by his perſonal influence; but which, conveying little information, and giving no great pleaſure, muſt ſoon give way, as the ſucceſſion of things produces new topicks of converſation, and other modes of amuſement.

AKENSIDE.

MARK AKENSIDE was born on the ninth of November, 1721, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne. His father Mark was a butcher, of the Preſbyterian ſect; his mother's name was Mary Lumſden. He received the firſt part of his education at the grammar-ſchool of Newcaſtle; and was afterwards inſtructed by Mr. Wilſon, who kept a private academy.

At the age of eighteen he was ſent to Edinburgh, that he might qualify himſelf for the office of a diſſenting miniſter, and received ſome aſſiſtance from the fund which the Diſſenters employ in educating young men of ſcanty fortune. But a wider view of the world

opened other ſcenes, and prompted other hopes: he determined to ſtudy phyſic, and repaid that contribution, which, being received for a different purpoſe, he juſtly thought it diſhonourable to retain.

Whether, when he reſolved not to be a diſſenting miniſter, he ceaſed to be a Diſſenter, I know not. He certainly retained an unneceſſary and outrageous zeal for what he called and thought liberty; a zeal which ſometimes diſguiſes from the world, and not rarely from the mind which it poſſeſſes, an envious deſire of plundering wealth or degrading greatneſs; and of which the immediate tendency is innovation and anarchy, an impetuous eagerneſs to ſubvert and confound, with very little care what ſhall be eſtabliſhed.

Akenſide was one of thoſe poets who have felt very early the motions of genius, and one of thoſe ſtudents who have very early ſtored their memories with ſentiments and images. Many of his performances were produced in his youth; and his greateſt work, "The Plea-"ſures of Imagination," appeared in 1744. I have heard Dodſley, by whom it was publiſhed, relate, that when the copy was offered him, the

the price demanded for it, which was an hundred and twenty pounds, being ſuch as he was not inclined to give precipitately, he carried the work to Pope, who, having looked into it, adviſed him not to make a niggardly offer; for "this was no every-day writer."

In 1741 he went to Leyden, in purſuit of medical knowledge; and three years afterwards (May 16, 1744) became doctor of phyſick, having, according to the cuſtom of the Dutch Univerſities, publiſhed a theſis, or diſſertation. The ſubject which he choſe was "The Ori-"ginal and Growth of the Human Fœtus;" in which he is ſaid to have departed, with great judgement, from the opinion then eſtabliſhed, and to have delivered that which has been ſince confirmed and received.

Akenſide was a young man, warm with every notion that by nature or accident had been connected with the ſound of liberty, and by an eccentricity which ſuch diſpoſitions do not eaſily avoid, a lover of contradiction, and no friend to any thing eſtabliſhed. He adopted Shafteſbury's fooliſh aſſertion of the efficacy of ridicule for the diſcovery of truth. For this he was attacked by Warburton, and defended

by Dyſon: Warburton afterwards reprinted his remarks at the end of his dedication to the Freethinkers.

The reſult of all the arguments which have been produced in a long and eager diſcuſſion of this idle queſtion, may eaſily be collected. If ridicule be applied to any poſition as the teſt of truth, it will then become a queſtion whether ſuch ridicule be juſt; and this can only be decided by the application of truth, as the teſt of ridicule. Two men, fearing, one a real and the other a fancied danger, will be for a while equally expoſed to the inevitable conſequences of cowardice, contemptuous cenſure, and ludicrous repreſentation; and the true ſtate of both caſes muſt be known, before it can be decided whoſe terror is rational, and whoſe is ridiculous; who is to be pitied, and who to be deſpiſed. Both are for a while equally expoſed to laughter, but both are not therefore equally contemptible.

In the reviſal of his poem, which he died before he had finiſhed, he omitted the lines which had given occaſion to Warburton's objections.

He

He publiſhed, ſoon after his return from Leyden (1745), his firſt collection of odes; and was impelled by his rage of patriotiſm to write a very acrimonious epiſtle to Pulteney, whom he ſtigmatizes, under the name of Curio, as the betrayer of his country.

Being now to live by his profeſſion, he firſt commenced phyſician at Northampton, where Dr. Stonehouſe then practiſed, with ſuch reputation and ſucceſs, that a ſtranger was not likely to gain ground upon him. Akenſide tried the conteſt a while; and, having deafened the place with clamours for liberty, removed to Hampſtead, where he reſided more than two years, and then fixed himſelf in London, the proper place for a man of accompliſhments like his.

At London he was known as a poet, but was ſtill to make his way as a phyſician; and would perhaps have been reduced to great exigences, but that Mr Dyſon, with an ardour of friendſhip that has not many examples, allowed him three hundred pounds a year. Thus ſupported, he advanced gradually in medical reputation, but never attained any great extent of practice, or eminence of popularity. A

phyſician in a great city ſeems to be the mere play-thing of Fortune; his degree of reputation is, for the moſt part, totally caſual: they that employ him, know not his excellence; they that reject him, know not his deficience. By any acute obſerver, who had looked on the tranſactions of the medical world for half a century, a very curious book might be written on the "Fortune of Phyſicians."

Akenſide appears not to have been wanting to his own ſucceſs: he placed himſelf in view by all the common methods; he became a Fellow of the Royal Society; he obtained a degree at Cambridge, and was admitted into the College of Phyſicians; he wrote little poetry, but publiſhed, from time to time, medical eſſays and obſervations; he became phyſician to St. Thomas's Hoſpital; he read the Gulſtonian Lectures in Anatomy; but began to give, for the Crounian Lecture, a hiſtory of the revival of Learning, from which he ſoon deſiſted; and, in converſation, he very eagerly forced himſelf into notice by an ambitious oſtentation of elegance and literature.

His Diſcourſe on the Dyſentery (1764) was conſidered as a very conſpicuous ſpecimen of Latinity,

Latinity, which entitled him to the ſame height of place among the ſcholars as he poſſeſſed before among the wits; and he might perhaps have riſen to a greater elevation of character, but that his ſtudies were ended with his life, by a putrid fever, June 23, 1770, in the forty-ninth year of his age.

AKENSIDE is to be conſidered as a didactick and lyrick poet. His great work is the "Pleaſures of Imagination;" a performance which, publiſhed, as it was, at the age of twenty-three, raiſed expectations that were not very amply ſatisfied. It has undoubtedly a juſt claim to very particular notice, as an example of great felicity of genius, and uncommon amplitude of acquiſitions, of a young mind ſtored with images, and much exerciſed in combining and comparing them.

With the philoſophical or religious tenets of the author I have nothing to do: my buſineſs is with his poetry. The ſubject is well-choſen,

as it includes all images that can ſtrike or pleaſe, and thus compriſes every ſpecies of poetical delight. The only difficulty is in the choice of examples and illuſtrations; and it is not eaſy in ſuch exuberance of matter to find the middle point between penury and ſatiety. The parts ſeem artificially diſpoſed, with ſufficient coherence, ſo as that they cannot change their places without injury to the general deſign

His images are diſplayed with ſuch luxuriance of expreſſion, that they are hidden, like Butler's Moon, by a "Veil of Light;" they are forms fantaſtically loſt under ſuperfluity of dreſs. *Pars minima eſt ipſa puella ſui.* The words are multiplied till the ſenſe is hardly perceived; attention deſerts the mind, and ſettles in the ear. The reader wanders through the gay diffuſion, ſometimes amazed, and ſometimes delighted; but, after many turnings in the flowery labyrinth, comes out as he went in. He remarked little, and laid hold on nothing.

To his verſification juſtice requires that praiſe ſhould not be denied. In the general fabrication of his lines he is perhaps ſuperior to any other writer of blank verſe; his flow is ſmooth,

ſmooth, and his pauſes are muſical; but the concatenation of his verſes is commonly too long continued, and the full cloſe does not recur with ſufficient frequency. The ſenſe is carried on through a long intertexture of complicated clauſes; and as nothing is diſtinguiſhed, nothing is remembered.

The exemption which blank verſe affords from the neceſſity of cloſing the ſenſe with the couplet, betrays luxuriant and active minds into ſuch ſelf-indulgence, that they pile image upon image, ornament upon ornament, and are not eaſily perſuaded to cloſe the ſenſe at all. Blank verſe will therefore, I fear, be too often found in deſcription exuberant, in argument loquacious, and in narration tireſome.

His diction is certainly poetical as it is not proſaick, and elegant as it is not vulgar. He is to be commended as having fewer artifices of diſguſt than moſt of his brethren of the blank ſong. He rarely either recalls old phraſes or twiſts his metre into harſh inverſions. The ſenſe, however, of his words is ſtrained; when "he views the Ganges from Alpine heights;" that is, from mountains like the Alps. And the pedant ſurely intrudes, (but when was blank verſe

verſe without pedantry?) when he tells how "Planets *abſolve* the ſtated round of Time."

It is generally known to the readers of poetry that he intended to reviſe and augment this work, but died before he had completed his deſign. The reformed work as he left it, and the additions which he had made, are very properly retained in the preſent collection. He ſeems to have ſomewhat contracted his diffuſion; but I know not whether he has gained in cloſeneſs what he has loſt in ſplendor. In the additional book, the "Tale of Solon" is too long.

One great defect of his poem is very properly cenſured by Mr. Walker, unleſs it may be ſaid in his defence, that what he has omitted was not properly in his plan. "His picture "of man is grand and beautiful, but unfiniſh-"ed. The immortality of the ſoul, which is "the natural conſequence of the appetites and "powers ſhe is inveſted with, is ſcarcely once "hinted throughout the poem. This deficien-"cy is amply ſupplied by the maſterly pencil "of Dr. Young; who, like a good philoſo-"pher, has invincibly proved the immortality "of man, from the grandeur of his concep-

"tions,

"tions, and the meanneſs and miſery of his "ſtate; for this reaſon, a few paſſages are ſe- "lected from the 'Night Thoughts,' which, "with thoſe from Akenſide, ſeem to form a "complete view of the powers, ſituation, and "end of man." 'Exerciſes for Improvement 'in Elocution,' p. 66.

His other poems are now to be conſidered; but a ſhort conſideration will diſpatch them. It is not eaſy to gueſs why he addicted himſelf ſo diligently to lyrick poetry, having neither the eaſe and airineſs of the lighter, nor the vehemence and elevation of the grander ode. When he lays his ill-fated hand upon his harp, his former powers ſeem to deſert him; he has no longer his luxuriance of expreſſion, nor variety of images. His thoughts are cold, and his words inelegant. Yet ſuch was his love of lyricks, that, having written with great vigour and poignancy his "Epiſtle to Curio," he transformed it afterwards into an ode diſgraceful only to its author.

Of his odes nothing favourable can be ſaid; the ſentiments commonly want force, nature, or novelty; the diction is ſometimes harſh and uncouth, the ſtanzas ill-conſtructed and unpleaſant,

pleaſant, and the rhymes diſſonant, or unſkilfully diſpoſed, too diſtant from each other, or arranged with too little regard to eſtabliſhed uſe, and therefore perplexing to the ear, which in a ſhort compoſiton has not time to grow familiar with an innovation.

To examine ſuch compoſitions ſingly, cannot be required; they have doubtleſs brighter and darker parts: but when they are once found to be generally dull, all further labour may be ſpared; for to what uſe can the work be criticiſed that will not be read?

GRAY.

THOMAS GRAY, the ſon of Mr. Philip Gray, a ſcrivener of London, was born in Cornhill, November 26, 1716. His grammatical education he received at Eton under the care of Mr. Antrobus, his mother's brother, then aſſiſtant to Dr. George; and when he left ſchool, in 1734, entered a penſioner at Peterhouſe in Cambridge.

The tranſition from the ſchool to the college is, to moſt young ſcholars, the time from which they date their years of manhood, liberty, and happineſs; but Gray ſeems to have been very little delighted with academical gratifications; he liked at Cambridge neither the mode of life nor the faſhion of ſtudy, and lived ſul-

ſullenly on to the time when his attendance on lectures was no longer required. As he intended to profeſs the Common Law, he took no degree.

When he had been at Cambridge about five years, Mr. Horace Walpole, whoſe friendſhip he had gained at Eton, invited him to travel with him as his companion They wandered through France into Italy; and Gray's Letters contain a very pleaſing account of many parts of their journey. But unequal friendſhips are eaſily diſſolved: at Florence they quarelled, and parted; and Mr. Walpole is now content to have it told that it was by his fault. If we look, however, without prejudice on the world, we ſhall find that men, whoſe conſciouſneſs of their own merit ſets them above the compliances of ſervility, are apt enough in their aſſociation with ſuperiors to watch their own dignity with troubleſome and punctilious jealouſy, and in the fervour of independance to exact that attention which they refuſe to pay. Part they did, whatever was the quarrel; and the reſt of their travels was doubtleſs more unpleaſant to them both. Gray continued his jour-

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ney in a manner ſuitable to his own little fortune, with only an occaſional ſervant.

He returned to England in September 1741, and in about two months afterwards buried his father; who had, by an injudicious waſte of money upon a new houſe, ſo much leſſened his fortune, that Gray thought himſelf too poor to ſtudy the law. He therefore retired to Cambridge, where he ſoon after became Bachelor of Civil Law; and where, without liking the place or its inhabitants, or profeſſing to like them, he paſſed, except a ſhort reſidence at London, the reſt of his life.

About this time he was deprived of Mr. Weſt, the ſon of a chancellor of Ireland, a friend on whom he appears to have ſet a high value, and who deſerved his eſteem by the powers which he ſhews in his Letters, and in the "Ode to May," which Mr. Maſon has preſerved, as well as by the ſincerity with which, when Gray ſent him part of "Agrippina," a tragedy that he had juſt begun, he gave an opinion which probably intercepted the progreſs of the work, and which the judgement of every reader will confirm. It was certainly

tainly no loſs to the Engliſh ſtage that "Agrip-
"pina" was never finiſhed.

In this year (1742) Gray ſeems firſt to have applied himſelf ſeriouſly to poetry; for in this year were produced the "Ode to Spring," his "Proſpect of Eton," and his "Ode to Ad-
"verſity." He began likewiſe a Latin poem, "De Principiis cogitandi."

It may be collected from the narrative of Mr. Maſon, that his firſt ambition was to have excelled in Latin poetry: perhaps it were reaſonable to wiſh that he had proſecuted his deſign; for though there is at preſent ſome embarraſſment in his phraſe, and ſome harſhneſs in his lyrick numbers, his copiouſneſs of language is ſuch as very few poſſeſs; and his lines, even when imperfect, diſcover a writer whom practice would quickly have made ſkilful.

He now lived on at Peterhouſe, very little ſolicitous what others did or thought, and cultivated his mind and enlarged his views without any other purpoſe than of improving and amuſing himſelf; when Mr. Maſon, being elected fellow of Pembroke Hall, brought him a companion who was afterwards to be his editor, and whoſe fondneſs and fidelity has kindled

dled in him a zeal of admiration, which cannot be reaſonably expected from the neutrality of a ſtranger and the coldneſs of a critick.

In this retirement he wrote (1747) an ode on the "Death of Mr. Walpole's Cat;" and the year afterwards attempted a poem of more importance, on "Government and Educa-"tion," of which the fragments which remain have many excellent lines.

His next production (1750) was his far-famed "Elegy in the Church-yard," which, finding its way into a Magazine, firſt, I believe, made him known to the publick.

An invitation from lady Cobham about this time gave occaſion to an odd compoſition called "A Long Story," which adds little to Gray's character.

Several of his pieces were publiſhed (1753), with deſigns by Mr. Bentley, and, that they might in ſome form or other make a book, only one ſide of each leaf was printed. I believe the poems and the plates recommended each other ſo well, that the whole impreſſion was ſoon bought. This year he loſt his mother.

Some time afterwards (1756) ſome young men of the college, whoſe chambers were near his, diverted themſelves with diſturbing him by frequent and troubleſome noiſes, and, as is ſaid, by pranks yet more offenſive and contemptuous. This inſolence, having endured it a while, he repreſented to the governors of the ſociety, among whom perhaps he had no friends; and, finding his complaint little regarded, removed himſelf to Pembroke Hall.

In 1757 he publiſhed "The Progreſs of "Poetry" and "The Bard," two compoſitions at which the readers of poetry were at firſt content to gaze in mute amazement. Some that tried them confeſſed their inability to underſtand them, though Warburton ſaid that they were underſtood as well as the works of Milton and Shakſpeare, which it is the faſhion to admire. Garrick wrote a few lines in their praiſe. Some hardy champions undertook to reſcue them from neglect, and in a ſhort time many were content to be ſhewn beauties which they could not ſee.

Gray's reputation was now ſo high, that, after the death of Cibber, he had the honour

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of refuſing the laurel, which was then beſtowed on Mr. Whitehead.

His curioſity, not long after, drew him away from Cambridge to a lodging near the Muſeum, where he reſided near three years, reading and tranſcribing; and, ſo far as can be diſcovered, very little affected by two odes on "Oblivion" and "Obſcurity," in which his lyrick performances were ridiculed with much contempt and much ingenuity.

When the Profeſſor of Modern Hiſtory at Cambridge died, he was, as he ſays, "cockered and ſpirited up," till he aſked it of lord Bute, who ſent him a civil refuſal; and the place was given to Mr. Brocket, the tutor of Sir James Lowther.

His conſtitution was weak, and believing that his health was promoted by exerciſe and change of place, he undertook (1765) a journey into Scotland, of which his account, ſo far as it extends, is very curious and elegant: for, as his comprehenſion was ample, his curioſity extended to all the works of art, all the appearances of nature, and all the monuments of paſt events. He naturally contracted a friendſhip with Dr. Beattie, whom he found a

poet, a philoſopher, and a good man. The Mareſchal College at Aberdeen offered him the degree of Doctor of Laws, which, having omitted to take it at Cambridge, he thought it decent to refuſe.

What he had formerly ſolicited in vain, was at laſt given him without ſolicitation. The Profeſſorſhip of Hiſtory became again vacant, and he received (1768) an offer of it from the duke of Grafton. He accepted, and retained it to his death; always deſigning lectures, but never reading them; uneaſy at his neglect of duty, and appeaſing his uneaſineſs with deſigns of reformation, and with a reſolution which he believed himſelf to have made of reſigning the office, if he found himſelf unable to diſcharge it.

Ill health made another journey neceſſary, and he viſited (1769) Weſtmoreland and Cumberland. He that reads his epiſtolary narration wiſhes, that to travel, and to tell his travels, had been more of his employment; but it is by ſtudying at home that we muſt obtain the ability of travelling with intelligence and improvement.

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His travels and his ſtudies were now near their end. The gout, of which he had ſuſtained many weak attacks, fell upon his ſtomach, and, yielding to no medicines, produced ſtrong convulſions, which (July 30, 1771) terminated in death.

His character I am willing to adopt, as Mr. Maſon has done, from a Letter written to my friend Mr. Boſwell, by the Rev. Mr. Temple rector of St. Gluvias in Cornwall; and am as willing as his warmeſt well-wiſher to believe it true.

"Perhaps he was the moſt learned man in "Europe. He was equally acquainted with "the elegant and profound parts of ſcience, "and that not ſuperficially but thoroughly. He "knew every branch of hiſtory, both natural "and civil; had read all the original hiſtorians "of England, France, and Italy; and was "a great antiquarian. Criticiſm, metaphyſics, "morals, politics, made a principal part of "his ſtudy; voyages and travels of all ſorts "were his favourite amuſements and he had "a fine taſte in painting, prints, architecture, "and gardening. With ſuch a fund of know-"ledge, his converſation muſt have been

" equally inſtructing and entertaining; but he " was alſo a good man, a man of virtue and " humanity. There is no character without " ſome ſpeck, ſome imperfection; and I think " the greateſt defect in his was an affectation " in delicacy, or rather effeminacy, and a viſi- " ble faſtidiouſneſs, or contempt and diſdain of " his inferiors in ſcience. He alſo had, in " ſome degree, that weakneſs which diſguſted " Voltaire ſo much in Mr. Congreve: though " he ſeemed to value others chiefly according " to the progreſs they had made in knowledge, " yet he could not bear to be conſidered him- " ſelf merely as a man of letters; and though " without birth, or fortune, or ſtation, his " deſire was to be looked upon as a private in- " dependent gentleman, who read for his " amuſement. Perhaps it may be ſaid, What " ſignifies ſo much knowledge, when it pro- " duced ſo little? Is it worth taking ſo much " pains to leave no memorial but a few poems? " But let it be conſidered that Mr. Gray was to " others at leaſt innocently employed; to him- " ſelf, certainly beneficially. His time paſſed " agreeably; he was every day making ſome " new acquiſition in ſcience; his mind was en-

" larged,

"larged, his heart ſoftened, his virtue ſtrengthened; the world and mankind were ſhewn "to him without a maſk; and he was taught "to conſider every thing as trifling, and unworthy of the attention of a wiſe man, except the purſuit of knowledge and practice of "virtue, in that ſtate wherein God hath placed "us."

To this character Mr. Maſon has added a more particular account of Gray's ſkill in zoology. He has remarked, that Gray's effeminacy was affected moſt "before thoſe whom "he did not wiſh to pleaſe;" and that he is unjuſtly charged with making knowledge his ſole reaſon of preference, as he paid his eſteem to none whom he did not likewiſe believe to be good.

What has occurred to me from the ſlight inſpection of his Letters in which my undertaking has engaged me, is, that his mind had a large graſp; that his curioſity was unlimited, and his judgement cultivated; that he was a man likely to love much where he loved at all, but that he was faſtidious and hard to pleaſe. His contempt, however, is often employed, where I hope it will be approved, upon ſcepti-

ciſm, and infidelity. His ſhort account of Shafteſbury I will inſert.

"You ſay you cannot conceive how lord "Shafteſbury came to be a philoſopher in "vogue; I will tell you: firſt, he was a lord; "ſecondly, he was as vain as any of his read-"ers; thirdly, men are very prone to believe "what they do not underſtand; fourthly, they "will believe any thing at all provided they "are under no obligation to believe it; fifthly, "they love to take a new road, even when that "road leads no where; ſixthly, he was rec-"koned a fine writer, and ſeems always to "mean more than he ſaid. Would you have "any more reaſons? An interval of above forty "years has pretty well deſtroyed the charm. "A dead lord ranks with commoners; vanity "is no longer intereſted in the matter; for a "new road is become an old one."

Mr. Maſon has added, from his own knowledge, that though Gray was poor, he was not eager of money; and that, out of the little that he had, he was very willing to help the neceſſitous.

As a writer he had this peculiarity, that he did not write his pieces firſt rudely, and then cor-

correct them, but laboured every line as it arose in the train of compoſition; and he had a notion not very peculiar, that he could not write but at certain times, or at happy moments; a fantaſtick foppery, to which my kindneſs for a man of learning and of virtue wiſhes him to have been ſuperior.

GRAY's Poetry is now to be conſidered; and I hope not to be looked on as an enemy to his name, if I confeſs that I contemplate it with leſs pleaſure than his life.

His ode on "Spring" has ſomething poetical, both in the language and the thought; but the language is too luxuriant, and the thoughts have nothing new. There has of late ariſen a practice of giving to adjectives derived from ſubſtantives, the termination of participles; ſuch as the *cultur&d* plain, the *daiſied* bank; but I was ſorry to ſee, in the lines of a ſcholar like Gray, the *honied* Spring. The morality is natural, but too ſtale; the concluſion is pretty.

The poem "On the Cat" was doubtleſs by its author conſidered as a trifle, but it is not a happy trifle. In the firſt ſtanza "the azure "flowers *that* blow," ſhew reſolutely a rhyme is ſometimes made when it cannot eaſily be found.

found. Selima, the Cat, is called a nymph, with ſome violence both to language and ſenſe; but there is good uſe made of it when it is done; for of the two lines,

What female heart can gold deſpiſe?
What cat's averſe to fiſh?

the firſt relates merely to the nymph, and the ſecond only to the cat. The ſixth ſtanza contains a melancholy truth, that "a favourite has no friend;" but the laſt ends in a pointed ſentence of no relation to the purpoſe; if *what gliſtered* had been *gold*, the cat would not have gone into the water; and, if ſhe had, would not leſs have been drowned.

The "Proſpect of Eton College" ſuggeſts nothing to Gray, which every beholder does not equally think and feel. His ſupplication to father Thames, to tell him who drives the hoop or toſſes the ball, is uſeleſs and puerile. Father Thames has no better means of knowing than himſelf. His epithet "buxom health" is not elegant; he ſeems not to underſtand the word. Gray thought his language more poetical as it was more remote from common uſe: finding in Dryden "honey redolent of Spring," an expreſſion that reaches the utmoſt limits of our lan-

language, Gray drove it a little more beyond common apprehenſion, by making "gales" to be "redolent of joy and youth."

Of the "Ode on Adverſity," the hint was at firſt taken from "O Diva, gratum quæ re-"gis Antium;" but Gray has excelled his original by the variety of his ſentiments, and by their moral application. Of this piece, at once poetical and rational, I will not by ſlight objections violate the dignity.

My proceſs has now brought me to the *wonderful* "Wonder of Wonders," the two Siſter Odes; by which, though either vulgar ignorance or common ſenſe at firſt univerſally rejected them, many have been ſince perſuaded to think themſelves delighted. I am one of thoſe that are willing to be pleaſed, and therefore would gladly find the meaning of the firſt ſtanza of the "Progreſs of Poetry."

Gray ſeems in his rapture to confound the images of "ſpreading ſound and running wa-"ter." A "ſtream of muſick" may be allowed; but where does "muſick," however "ſmooth and ſtrong," after having viſited the "verdant vales, rowl down the ſteep amain," ſo as that "rocks and nodding groves rebellow

"to

"to the roar?" If this be ſaid of Muſick, it is nonſenſe; if it be ſaid of Water, it is nothing to the purpoſe.

The ſecond ſtanza, exhibiting Mars's car and Jove's eagle, is unworthy of further notice. Criticiſm diſdains to chaſe a ſchool-boy to his common-places.

To the third it may likewiſe be objected, that it is drawn from Mythology, though ſuch as may be more eaſily aſſimilated to real life. Idalia's "velvet-green" has ſomething of cant. An epithet or metaphor drawn from Nature ennobles Art; an epithet or metaphor drawn from Art degrades Nature. Gray is too fond of words arbitrarily compounded. "Many-twinkling" was formerly cenſured as not analogical; we may ſay "many-ſpotted," but ſcarcely "many-ſpotting." This ſtanza, however, has ſomething pleaſing.

Of the ſecond ternary of ſtanzas, the firſt endeavours to tell ſomething, and would have told it, had it not been croſſed by Hyperion: the ſecond deſcribes well enough the univerſal prevalence of Poetry; but I am afraid that the concluſion will not riſe from the premiſes. The caverns of the North and the plains of Chili

are

are not the reſidences of "Glory and generous "Shame." But that Poetry and Virtue go always together is an opinion ſo pleaſing, that I can forgive him who reſolves to think it true.

The third ſtanza ſounds big with "Delphi," and "Egean," and "Iliſſus," and "Mean-"der," and "hallowed fountain," and "ſo-"lemn ſound;" but in all Gray's odes there is a kind of cumbrous ſplendour which we wiſh away. His poſition is at laſt falſe: in the time of Dante and Petrarch, from whom he derives our firſt ſchool of Poetry, Italy was over-run by "tyrant power" and "coward vice;" nor was our ſtate much better when we firſt borrowed the Italian arts.

Of the third ternary, the firſt gives a mythological birth of Shakſpeare. What is ſaid of that mighty genius is true; but it is not ſaid happily: the real effects of this poetical power are put out of ſight by the pomp of machinery. Where truth is ſufficient to fill the mind, fiction is worſe than uſeleſs; the counterfeit debaſes the genuine.

His account of Milton's blindneſs, if we ſuppoſe it cauſed by ſtudy in the formation of his poem, a ſuppoſition ſurely allowable, is poeti-

poetically true, and happily imagined. But the *car* of Dryden, with his *two courſers*, has nothing in it peculiar; it is a car in which any other rider may be placed.

"The Bard" appears, at the firſt view, to be, as Algarotti and others have remarked, an imitation of the prophecy of Nereus. Algarotti thinks it ſuperior to its original, and, if preference depends only on the imagery and animation of the two poems, his judgement is right. There is in "The Bard" more force, more thought, and more variety. But to copy is leſs than to invent, and the copy has been unhappily produced at a wrong time. The fiction of Horace was to the Romans credible; but its revival diſguſts us with apparent and unconquerable falſehood. *Incredulus odi.*

To ſelect a ſingular event, and ſwell it to a giant's bulk by fabulous appendages of ſpectres and predictions, has little difficulty; for he that forſakes the probable may always find the marvellous. And it has little uſe; we are affected only as we believe; we are improved only as we find ſomething to be imitated or declined I do not ſee that "The Bard" promotes any truth, moral or political.

His

His ſtanzas are too long, eſpecially his epodes; the ode is finiſhed before the ear has learned its meaſures, and conſequently before it can receive pleaſure from their conſonance and recurrence.

Of the firſt ſtanza the abrupt beginning has been celebrated; but technical beauties can give praiſe only to the inventor. It is in the power of any man to ruſh abruptly upon his ſubject, that has read the ballad of *Johnny Armſtrong*,

Is there ever a man in all Scotland—

The initial reſemblances, or alliterations, "ruin, ruthleſs, helm or hauberk," are below the grandeur of a poem that endeavours at ſublimity.

In the ſecond ſtanza the Bard is well deſcribed; but in the third we have the puerilities of obſolete mythology. When we are told that "Cadwallo huſh'd the ſtormy main," and that "Modred made huge Plinlimmon bow his "cloud-top'd head," attention recoils from the repetition of a tale that, even when it was firſt heard, was heard with ſcorn.

The

The *weaving* of the *winding ſheet* he borrowed, as he owns, from the northern bards; but their texture, however, was very properly the work of female powers, as the act of ſpinning the thread of life in another mythology. Theft is always dangerous; Gray has made weavers of ſlaughtered bards, by a fiction outrageous and incongruous. They are then called upon to "Weave the warp, and weave the woof," perhaps with no great propriety; for it is by croſſing the *woof* with the *warp* that men *weave* the *web* or piece; and the firſt line was dearly bought by the admiſſion of its wretched correſpondent, "Give ample room and verge "enough *." He has, however, no other line as bad.

The third ſtanza of the ſecond ternary is commended, I think, beyond its merit. The perſonification is indiſtinct. *Thirſt* and *Hunger* are not alike; and their features, to make the imagery perfect, ſhould have been diſcriminated. We are told, in the ſame ſtanza, how "towers are fed." But I will no longer look

* "I have a ſoul, that like an *ample* ſhield
"Can take in all; and *verge enough* for more."
Dryden's Sebaſtian.

for

for particular faults; yet let it be obſerved that the ode might have been concluded with an action of better example; but ſuicide is always to be had, without expence of thought.

Theſe odes are marked by glittering accumulations of ungraceful ornaments; they ſtrike, rather than pleaſe; the images are magnified by affectation; the language is laboured into harſhneſs. The mind of the writer ſeems to work with unnatural violence. "Double, double, "toil and trouble." He has a kind of ſtrutting dignity, and is tall by walking on tiptoe. His art and his ſtruggle are too viſible, and there is too little appearance of eaſe and nature.

To ſay that he has no beauties, would be unjuſt: a man like him, of great learning and great induſtry, could not but produce ſomething valuable. When he pleaſes leaſt, it can only be ſaid that a good deſign was ill directed.

His tranſlations of Northern and Welſh poetry deſerve praiſe; the imagery is preſerved, perhaps often improved; but the language is unlike the language of other poets.

In the character of his Elegy I rejoice to concur with the common reader; for by the common ſenſe of readers uncorrupted with lite-

rary prejudices, after all the refinements of ſubtilty and the dogmatiſm of learning, muſt be finally decided all claim to poetical honours. The "Church-yard" abounds with images which find a mirror in every mind, and with ſentiments to which every boſom returns an echo. The four ſtanzas, beginning "Yet "even theſe bones," are to me original: I have never ſeen the notions in any other place; yet he that reads them here perſuades himſelf that he has always felt them. Had Gray written often thus, it had been vain to blame, and uſeleſs to praiſe him.

LYTTELTON.

GEORGE LYTTELTON, the ſon of Sir Thomas Lyttelton, of Hagley in Worceſterſhire, was born in 1709. He was educated at Eton, where he was ſo much diſtinguiſhed, that his exerciſes were recommended as models to his ſchool-fellows.

From Eton he went to Chriſt-church, where he retained the ſame reputation of ſuperiority, and diſplayed his abilities to the publick in a poem on "Blenheim."

He was a very early writer, both in verſe and proſe. His "Progreſs of Love, and his "Perſian Letters," were both written when he was very young; and, indeed, the character of a young man is very viſible in both. The verſes cant of ſhepherds and flocks, and crooks

dreſſed with flowers; and the Letters have ſomething of that indiſtinct and headſtrong ardour for liberty which a man of genius always catches when he enters the world, and always ſuffers to cool as he paſſes forward.

He ſtaid not long at Oxford; for in 1728 he began his travels, and ſaw France and Italy. When he returned, he obtained a ſeat in parliament, and ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf among the moſt eager opponents of Sir Robert Walpole, though his father, who was Commiſſioner of the Admiralty, always voted with the Court.

For many years the name of George Lyttelton was ſeen in every account of every debate in the Houſe of Commons. He oppoſed the ſtanding army; he oppoſed the exciſe; he ſupported the motion for petitioning the King to remove Walpole. His zeal was conſidered by the courtiers not only as violent, but as acrimonious and malignant; and when Walpole was at laſt hunted from his places, every effort was made by his friends, and many friends he had, to exclude Lyttelton from the Secret Committee.

The

The Prince of Wales, being (1737) driven from St. James's, kept a ſeparate court, and opened his arms to the opponents of the miniſtry. Mr. Lyttelton became the ſecretary, and was ſuppoſed to have great influence in the direction of his conduct. He perſuaded his maſter, whoſe buſineſs it was now to be popular, that he would advance his character by patronage. Mallet was made under-ſecretary, with 200*l.* and Thomſon had a penſion of 100*l.* a year. For Thomſon Lyttelton always retained his kindneſs, and was able at laſt to place him at eaſe.

Moore courted his favour by an apologetical poem, called "The Trial of Selim," for which he was paid with kind words, which, as is common, raiſed great hopes, that were at laſt diſappointed.

Lyttelton now ſtood in the firſt rank of oppoſition: and Pope, who was incited, it is not eaſy to ſay how, to increaſe the clamour againſt the miniſtry, commended him among the other patriots. This drew upon him the reproaches of Fox, who, in the houſe, imputed to him as a crime his intimacy with a lampooner ſo unjuſt and licentious. Lyttelton ſupported

his friend, and replied, that he thought it an honour to be received into the familiarity of ſo great a poet.

While he was thus conſpicuous, he married (1741) Miſs Lucy Forteſcue of Devonſhire, by whom he had a ſon, the late lord Lyttelton, and two daughters, and with whom he appears to have lived in the higheſt degree of connubial felicity: but human pleaſures are ſhort; ſhe died in childbed about five years afterwards, and he ſolaced his grief by writing a long poem to her memory.

He did not however condemn himſelf to perpetual ſolitude and ſorrow; for, after a while, he was content to ſeek happineſs again by a ſecond marriage with the daughter of Sir Robert Rich; but the experiment was unſucceſsful.

At length, after a long ſtruggle, Walpole gave way, and honour and profit were diſtributed among his conquerors. Lyttelton was made (1744) one of the Lords of the Treaſury; and from that time was engaged in ſupporting the ſchemes of the miniſtry.

Politicks did not, however, ſo much engage him as to withhold his thoughts from things of more importance. He had, in the pride of juvenile

venile confidence, with the help of corrupt converſation, entertained doubts of the truth of Chriſtianity; but he thought the time now come when it was no longer fit to doubt or believe by chance, and applied himſelf ſeriouſly to the great queſtion. His ſtudies, being honeſt, ended in conviction. He found that religion was true, and what he had learned he endeavoured to teach (1747), by "Obſervations on the Converſion of St. Paul;" a treatiſe to which Infidelity has never been able to fabricate a ſpecious anſwer. This book his father had the happineſs of ſeeing, and expreſſed his pleaſure in a letter which deſerves to be inſerted.

"I have read your religious treatiſe with infinite pleaſure and ſatisfaction. The ſtyle is fine and clear, the arguments cloſe, cogent, and irreſiſtible. May the King of kings, whoſe glorious cauſe you have ſo well defended, reward your pious labours, and grant that I may be found worthy, through the merits of Jeſus Chriſt, to be an eye-witneſs of that happineſs which I don't doubt he will bountifully beſtow upon you. In the mean time, I ſhall never ceaſe glorify-

"ing God, for having endowed you with "ſuch uſeful talents, and giving me ſo good "a ſon.

"Your affectionate father,

"THOMAS LYTTELTON."

A few years afterwards (1751), by the death of his father, he inherited a baronet's title with a large eſtate, which, though perhaps he did not augment, he was careful to adorn, by a houſe of great elegance and expence, and by much attention to the decoration of his park.

As he continued his activity in parliament, he was gradually advancing his claim to profit and preferment; and accordingly was made in time (1754) cofferer and privy counſellor: this place he exchanged next year for the great office of chancellor of the Exchequer; an office, however, that required ſome qualifications which he ſoon perceived himſelf to want.

The year after, his curioſity led him into Wales; of which he has given an account, perhaps rather with too much affectation of delight, to Archibald Bower, a man of whom he had conceived an opinion more favourable than he ſeems to have deſerved, and whom, having

having once eſpouſed his intereſt and fame, he never was perſuaded to diſown. Bower, whatever was his moral character, did not want abilities! attacked as he was by an univerſal outcry, and that outcry, as it ſeems, the echo of truth, he kept his ground; at laſt, when his defences began to fail him, he ſallied out upon his adverſaries, and his adverſaries retreated.

About this time Lyttelton publiſhed his "Dialogues of the Dead," which were very eagerly read, though the production rather, as it ſeems, of leiſure than of ſtudy, rather effuſions than compoſitions. The names of his perſons too often enable the reader to anticipate their converſation; and when they have met, they too often part without any concluſion. He has copied Fenelon more than Fontenelle.

When they were firſt publiſhed, they were kindly commended by the "Critical Re-"viewers;" and poor Lyttelton, with humble gratitude, returned, in a note which I have read, acknowledgments which can never be proper, ſince they muſt be paid either for flattery or for juſtice.

When, in the latter part of the laſt reign, the inauſpicious commencement of the war made

made the diſſolution of the miniſtry unavoidable, Sir George Lyttelton, loſing with the reſt his employment, was recompenſed with a peerage; and reſted from political turbulence in the Houſe of Lords.

His laſt literary production was his "Hiſtory "of Henry the Second," elaborated by the ſearches and deliberations of twenty years, and publiſhed with ſuch anxiety as only vanity can dictate.

The ſtory of this publication is remarkable. The whole work was printed twice over, a great part of it three times, and many ſheets four or five times. The bookſellers paid for the firſt impreſſion; but the charges and repeated operations of the preſs were at the expence of the author, whoſe ambitious accuracy is known to have coſt him at leaſt a thouſand pounds. He began to print in 1755. Three volumes appeared in 1764, a ſecond edition of them in 1767, a third edition in 1768, and the concluſion in 1771.

Andrew Reid, a man not without conſiderable abilities, and not unacquainted with letters or with life, undertook to perſuade Lyttelton, as he had perſuaded himſelf, that he was maſter

of

of the ſecret of punctuation; and, as fear begets credulity, he was employed, I know not at what price, to point the pages of "Henry the "Second." The book was at laſt pointed and printed, and ſent into the world. Lyttelton took money for his copy, of which, when he had paid the Pointer, he probably gave the reſt away; for he was very liberal to the indigent.

When time brought the Hiſtory to a third edition, Reid was either dead or diſcarded; and the ſuperintendence of typography and punctuation was committed to a man originally a comb-maker, but then known by the ſtyle of Doctor. Something uncommon was probably expected, and ſomething uncommon was at laſt done; for to the Doctor's edition is appended, what the world had hardly ſeen before, a liſt of errors in nineteen pages.

But to politicks and literature there muſt be an end. Lord Lyttelton had never the appearance of a ſtrong or of a healthy man; he had a ſlender uncompacted frame, and a meagre face: he laſted however ſixty years, and was then ſeized with his laſt illneſs. Of his death a very affecting and inſtructive account has been

been given by his phyſician, which will ſpare me the taſk of his moral character.

" On Sunday evening the ſymptoms of his " lordſhip's diſorder, which for a week paſt had " alarmed us, put on a fatal appearance, and his " lordſhip believed himſelf to be a dying man. " From this time he ſuffered by reſtleſſneſs " rather than pain; though his nerves were " apparently much ſluttered, his mental facul- " ties never ſeemed ſtronger, when he was tho- " roughly awake.

" His lordſhip's bilious and hepatic com- " plaints ſeemed alone not equal to the ex- " pected mournful event; his long want of " ſleep, whether the conſequence of the irri- " tation in the bowels, or, which is more pro- " bable, of cauſes of a different kind, accounts " for his loſs of ſtrength, and for his death, " very ſufficiently.

" Though his lordſhip wiſhed his approach- " ing diſſolution not to be lingering, he waited " for it with reſignation. He ſaid, 'It is a " folly, a keeping me in miſery, now to at- " tempt to prolong life; yet he was eaſily " perſuaded, for the ſatisfaction of others, to " do or take any thing thought proper for him.

" On

"On Saturday he had been remarkably better, "and we were not without ſome hopes of his "recovery.

"On Sunday, about eleven in the forenoon, "his lordſhip ſent for me, and ſaid he felt a "great hurry, and wiſhed to have a little con- "verſation with me in order to divert it. He "then proceeded to open the fountain of that "heart, from whence goodneſs had ſo long "flowed as from a copious ſpring. 'Doc- "tor,' ſaid he, 'you ſhall be my confeſſor: "when I firſt ſet out in the world, I had "friends who endeavoured to ſhake my belief "in the Chriſtian religion. I ſaw difficulties "which ſtaggered me; but I kept my mind "open to conviction. The evidences and "doctrines of Chriſtianity, ſtudied with atten- "tion, made me a moſt firm and perſuaded be- "liever of the Chriſtian religion. I have made "it the rule of my life, and it is the ground of "my future hopes. I have erred and ſinned; "but have repented, and never indulged any "vicious habit. In politicks, and publick life, "I have made publick good the rule of my "conduct. I never gave counſels which I "did not at the time think the beſt. I have

"ſeen

" ſeen that I was ſometimes in the wrong, but " I did not err deſignedly. I have endea- " voured, in private life, to do all the good " in my power, and never for a moment could " indulge malicious or unjuſt deſigns upon any " perſon whatſoever.

" At another time he ſaid, ' I muſt leave " my ſoul in the ſame ſtate it was in be- " fore this illneſs; I find this a very in- " convenient time for ſolicitude about any " thing.'

" On the evening, when the ſymptoms of " death came on, he ſaid, ' I ſhall die; but " it will not be your fault.' When lord and " lady Valentia came to ſee his lordſhip, he " gave them his ſolemn benediction, and " ſaid, ' Be good, be virtuous, my lord; " you muſt come to this.' Thus he con- " tinued giving his dying benediction to all " around him. On Monday morning a lucid " interval gave ſome ſmall hopes, but theſe " vaniſhed in the evening; and he continued " dying, but with very little uneaſineſs, till " Tueſday morning, Auguſt 22, when between " ſeven and eight o'clock he expired, almoſt " without a groan."

His

His lordſhip was buried at Hagley; and the following inſcription is cut on the ſide of his lady's monument:

"This unadorned ſtone was placed here
"By the particular deſire and expreſs
"Directions of the Right Honourable
"GEORGE Lord LYTTELTON,
"Who died Auguſt 22, 1773, aged 64."

Lord Lyttelton's Poems are the works of a man of literature and judgement, devoting part of his time to verſification. They have nothing to be deſpiſed, and little to be admired. Of his "Progreſs of Love," it is ſufficient blame to ſay that it is paſtoral. His blank verſe in "Blenheim" has neither much force nor much elegance. His little performances, whether Songs or Epigrams, are ſometimes ſpritely, and ſometimes inſipid. His epiſtolary pieces have a ſmooth equability, which cannot much tire, becauſe they are ſhort, but which ſeldom elevates or ſurprizes. But from this cenſure ought to be excepted his "Advice to Belinda," which, though for the moſt part written when he was very young, contains much truth and much

much prudence, very elegantly and vigorouſly expreſſed, and ſhews a mind attentive to life, and a power of poetry which cultivation might have raiſed to excellence.

MOORE.

MOORE.

EDWARD MOORE was the ſon of a clergyman of the Engliſh Communion, at Abingdon in Berkſhire. He was born about the year 1720, and received his education from his uncle, a reputable ſchoolmaſter in Somerſetſhire. His original deſtination appears to have been for trade; and for ſome time he reſided with one Mr. Jackſon, an eminent merchant, who was a conſiderable dealer in linens. It does not appear that he ever was in buſineſs on his own account. Attached to the Muſes, he early courted public attention; and in the year 1744 produced his firſt performance, entituled "Fables for the "Female Sex," which was favourably received. In 1748 he undertook the defence of Mr. (afterwards

terwards Lord) Lyttelton, in an ironical poem called "The Trial of Selim the Perſian, for "high Crimes and Miſdemeanors," 4to; and in the ſame year produced his firſt dramatic performance, "The Foundling," a comedy, acted at Drury Lane; but which, though aided by the performanee of Garrick, Barry, Yates, Macklin, Mrs. Woffington, and Mrs. Cibber, and highly applauded and recommended by Colley Cibber, had but a moderate degree of ſucceſs. In 1749 he complimented Mr. Garrick in an Ode on his marriage with Madam Violetti; and about the ſame period he united himſelf in the ſame ſtate with Miſs Hamilton, daughter of Mr. Hamilton, table-decker to the princeſſes. This lady had expreſſed her partiality towards him in a poem addreſſed to Miſs Duck, daughter of the celebrated Stephen Duck, which was printed in ſeveral of the miſcellaneous collections of the times.

He had relied hitherto on his pen for his ſupport; and had ſome hopes, from the notice taken of him by Lord Lyttelton, of receiving from that nobleman's aſſiſtance ſome permanent ſupport. In this he was diſappointed. From Mr. Garrick's friend-

ſhip,

ſhip, however, he obtained ſome advantages. In 1751 his comedy of "Gil Blas" was acted at Drury Lane, and, though violently oppoſed, was carried through nine nights. In 1752 the tragedy of "The Gameſter" was performed at the ſame theatre with ſucceſs. In each of theſe performances the manager exerted himſelf both as actor and author; and on the publication of the latter had the author's thanks for the aſſiſtance he had received.

In January 1753 a periodical paper, called "The World, by Adam Fitz Adam," was begun by Mr. Moore, and was carried on until February 1757. In this he was aſſiſted by Lord Cheſterfield, Lord Corke, Mr. Walpole, Soame Jenyns, Whitehead, Warton, and other writers of eminence; and it is but juſtice to obſerve, that the papers written by our author will ſuffer no injury by a compariſon with thoſe of his coadjutors. All his exertions were, however, barely ſufficient to ward off the inconveniencies of poverty. In 1756 he publiſhed his works in a quarto volume; in the preface to which he ſays, "I have ſent this, my offspring, into "the world, in as decent a dreſs as I was able: "a legitimate one I am ſure it is; and, if it

"ſhould be thought defective in ſtrength, vi-
"gour, or ſpirit, let it be conſidered, that its
"father's marriage with the Muſes, like moſt
"other marriages into that noble family, was
"more from neceſſity than inclination." He continued "The World" until near the cloſe of his life, which happened at South Lambeth the 28th of February, 1757.

CAW-

CAWTHORN.

JAMES CAWTHORN was born in the year 1720, at or near Sheffield, and received his education partly at Rotherham and partly at Kirkby Lonsdale. Whether he was indebted to either of the universities for any part of the literature he poſſeſſed is uncertain, as his name does not appear in either of the liſts of graduates. His firſt employment was that of uſher at the ſchool of one Mr. Clare, in the city of London, whoſe ſiſter he married. His wife died before him. In 1743 he was choſen maſter of Tunbridge School by the Skinners Company; and in conjunction with his patrons founded a library, which is annexed to that ſeminary. In 1746 he publiſhed

his poem of "Abelard to Eloiſa," which, with two ſermons, was all that he printed in his life time.

He is ſaid to have been in the general intercourſe of life generous and friendly; but in the conduct of his ſchool ſingularly harſh and ſevere. He had ſome extraordinary foibles. With little ſkill in horſemanſhip, he was fond of hunting; and with no acquaintance with muſick, he was an admirer of concerts and operas. He has been known to ride to London from Tunbridge, in order to be preſent at a muſical performance, though he was under the neceſſity of being back by ſeven o'clock the next morning. He was killed by a fall from his horſe as he was going to beſpeak the muſick on ſome occaſion from Tunbridge Wells, April 15, 1761, and was buried in Tunbridge Church.

Over his remains is the following inſcription:

Hic ſitus eſt
JACOBUS CAWTHORN, A. M.
Scholæ Tunbrigienſis magiſter,
Qui juventuti tum moribus tum literis inſtituenda
Operam

Operam magno non ſine honore dedit.
Opibus, quas largâ manu diſtribuit,
Fruitur, & in æternum fruetur.
Obiit, heu citius! Aprilis 15, 1761,
Ætatis 40.
Soror mœſta ex grato animo hoc poſuit.

CHURCHILL.

CHARLES CHURCHILL was born in Vine ſtreet in the pariſh of St. John's, Weſtminſter, in the year 1731. His father was lecturer and curate of the pariſh, and had alſo a living in the country. The ſon received his education at Weſtminſter School, where ſtories are yet told of his early proficiency in his ſtudies, of his negligence, and the excentricity of his conduct. It has been ſaid, that he was ſent to Oxford, and rejected from thence for want of a proper ſkill in the learned languages. It is alſo believed, that he was a ſhort time at Cambridge, under Dr. Rutherforth of St. John's. Neither of the Univerſities can claim the honour of his education, which

which it is certain was begun and finiſhed at Weſtminſter.

When he was little more than ſeventeen years old, he contracted an intimacy with a young lady in the neighbourhood, which ended in a marriage. This union, which had its origin in paſſion, terminated in diſguſt. But, during the time the attachment, laſted Mr. Churchill made ſuch a progreſs in literature, and ſuſtained ſo good a character, that, notwithſtanding the want of an univerſity education, he was admitted into orders, and ordained by Dr. Sherlock, Biſhop of London.

His firſt proviſion in the church was a curacy of thirty pounds a year in Wales; to which remote part of the kingdom he retired with his wife, and applied himſelf to the duties of his ſtation with aſſiduity and chearfulneſs. But being prompted to engage in a ſpecies of trade to add to his income, he in a ſhort time experienced the folly of his deviation from his clerical profeſſion, and a kind of bankruptcy ſoon followed.

His ill ſucceſs brought him back to London; and, his father dying ſoon after, he ſucceeded him as curate and lecturer of St. John's; but, his

his income being inſufficient for the maintenance of his family, he employed himſelf in teaching young ladies to read and write Engliſh with propriety and correctneſs, and for ſome time attended Mrs. Dennis's boarding-ſchool. Still, however, his expences bore but a ſmall proportion to his income. He became embarraſſed with debts, and involved in difficulties, from which he was extricated by the aſſiſtance of Dr. Lloyd, the ſecond maſter of Weſtminſter School, who prevailed on his creditors to give him a releaſe on receiving a fourth part of their reſpective debts. It is to the honour of Churchill to record, that, when his circumſtances grew better, he voluntarily diſcharged the whole of the demands on him.

Though known to his intimate friends to be poſſeſſed of abilities calculated to entertain and inſtruct the publick, he was by no means forward to exhibit himſelf in the character of an author. He was little, if any thing, leſs than thirty years of age before he publiſhed any work with his name: if he produced any performance earlier, it was anonymous, and is now forgotten. In the year 1760, his friend Lloyd publiſhed "The Actor," a poem, ad-

addreſſed to Bonnel Thorton, which was received with great applauſe. The ſucceſs of this performance probably incited Mr. Churchill to try his powers on a ſimilar ſubject. Having been always fond of dramatic entertainments, he had been a conſtant attendant on the Theatre, and an accurate obſerver of the beauties or defects of the ſeveral performers. Theſe he made the ſubject of a poem, which he called "The Roſciad," firſt publiſhed anonymouſly in May 1761; but on being invidiouſly aſcribed to Mr. Lloyd, he immediately reprinted it with his name. Few poems have been ſo generally read, and perhaps fewer ſo generally admired. This was followed by "The Apology," and that by "Night;" the merits of theſe was not inferior to the "Roſciad," but neither of them ever become ſo popular.

The political diſſentions at this period increaſing every day, at length became ſo violent, that few perſons eſcaped being influenced in ſome manner by them. Mr. Churchill had contracted an intimacy with the heads of the party then called the Oppoſition, and, agreeably to the warmth of his temper, endeavoured to pro-

promote the intereſt of thoſe with whom he was connected, by every effort in his power. A ſubject had been ſuggeſted to him as adapted for the then popular paper "The North Bri-"ton;" but, on conſidering it with attention, he thought it would be better to form it into a poem; this he executed under the title of "The Prophecy of Famine," inſcribed to John Wilkes, Eſq. Having thus embarked in politicks, he ſoon rendered himſelf of importance enough to be included in the general warrant, under which Mr. Wilkes was taken into cuſtody: he eſcaped however the ſearch made after him, and continued his exertions againſt the Miniſter with great perſeverance, and not without ſome effect. Hardly one of his poems, publiſhed after this period, is free from the reproach of party virulence.

The rapidity of his pen, and the eagerneſs with which his works were purchaſed, were circumſtances not favourable to his reputation. As he proceeded in his literary career, he became more negligent; what he haſtily wrote, he as haſtily committed to the preſs. His latter works are manifeſtly inferior to his earlieſt productions. The genius of Churchill occaſionally

ſionally appears, but much dimmed and obſcured. The fertility of his mind cannot be more clearly demonſtrated, than by obſerving, that all his works now republiſhed were produced between May 1761, and November 1764; that is, in three years and a half.

While he was thus negligent of his fame as a writer, he was not more attentive to his reputation as a man. He ſeparated from his wife, threw off his clerical character, and dreſſed himſelf ridiculouſly in laced cloaths. He was often to be ſeen in diſgraceful ſociety, and indulged in intemperances which the ſober part of his friends could not avoid obſerving, and at the ſame time lamenting. His race was but ſhort. In the autumn of 1764, he went to Bologne with Mr. Humfrey Cotes, in order to pay a viſit to Mr. Wilkes, then in exile. There he was ſeized with a miliary fever, which baffled the medical art of two phyſicians of ſkill and reputation by whom he was attended. He died on the 4th of November, 1764, and was buried at Dover.

FAL-

FALCONER.

WILLIAM FALCONER was a native of Scotland, bred to the ſea ſervice, in which he ſpent the greateſt part of his life in a very low ſituation. He diſplayed his poetical talents at an early age, by the publication, at Edinburgh, of "A Poem, ſacred "to the memory of his Royal Highneſs Frede-"rick Prince of Wales," 8vo, 1751. In the courſe of his ſea life he appears to have really experienced the dangers ſo feelingly deſcribed in his poem, intituled, "The Shipwreck," printed in 1762. The publication of this work drew him from the obſcurity of his ſituation: he was patronized by the Duke of York,

to

to whom he addreſſed an Ode on his ſecond departure from England as rear-admiral, and ſoon after received the appointment of Purſer to the Royal George. In 1769 he publiſhed a "Marine Dictionary," an acknowledged uſeful work, and ſoon afterwards embarked on board the Aurora to ſettle in the Eaſt Indies. In December 1769 he arrived at the Cape of Good Hope, from whence he ſailed ſoon after. Theſe were the laſt tidings of the ſhip, which was never heard of afterwards. It is generally ſuppoſed to have taken fire, and that all the crew periſhed.

LLOYD.

L L O Y D.

ROBERT LLOYD was the ſon of Dr. Pearſon Lloyd, ſecond Maſter of Weſtminſter School, at which ſeminary he received his education. He was born in 1733; and had for his ſchool-fellows, Churchill, Thornton, Colman, and ſome others who have diſtinguiſhed themſelves in the literary world. To the firſt of theſe he was through life particularly attached. In the year 1751 he ſtood firſt on the liſt of Weſtminſter ſcholars, who were ſent to Trinity College, Cambridge, at the ſame time that his friend Colman obtained the ſame rank amongſt thoſe who were ſent to Oxford. In 1755 he took the degree of Batchelor; and in 1761 that of Maſter of Arts. Though he went to the Univerſity from ſchool in a manner ſo honourable

to

to his literature, he never became a fellow of his college. To the decency or propriety of his conduct at Cambridge, little commendation can be afforded; the report of his contemporaries is not in the leaſt favourable to his behaviour there. On leaving the univerſity, he returned to Weſtminſter, and became an aſſiſtant to his father as one of the uſhers of the ſchool, an employment he undertook with reluctance, and retired from with diſguſt. So early as the year 1750, he had written "The Progreſs of Envy," and had continued to cultivate his poetical talents during his reſidence at Cambridge. In the year 1760 he publiſhed "The Actor," and ſoon after quitted his office of uſher of the ſchool, determining for the future to rely on his pen for ſupport. In this plan of life he was unſucceſsful; though he engaged in many undertakings, he added little to his reputation, and nothing to his independence. The ſhort remainder of his life paſſed not with leſs ignominy than the preceding part of it; a habit of diſſipation had taken poſſeſſion of him; he contracted debts which he was unable to diſcharge, and in the end became a priſoner in the Fleet, where he was almoſt entirely ſupported by the benevolence

of his friend Churchill. On the death of that gentleman he fell into a fit of deſpondence, and ſurvived him but a few weeks. He died on the 15th of December 1764, at the age of 31; and was buried on the 19th, in the churchyard of St. Bride's pariſh.

"Mr. Lloyd," ſays Mr. Wilkes, "was mild "and affable in private life, of gentle manners, "and very engaging in converſation. He was an "excellent ſcholar, an eaſy natural poet. His "peculiar excellence was the dreſſing up an old "thought in a new, neat, and trim manner. He "was contented to ſcamper round the foot of "Parnaſſus on his little Welch poney, which "ſeems never to have tired. He left the fury of the "winged ſteed, and the daring flights of the "ſacred mountain, to the ſublime genius of his "friend Churchill."

CUNNINGHAM.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM was born at Dublin in the year 1729. His father was a wine-cooper in moderate circumſtances, who, having obtained a prize in the lottery, commenced wine-merchant, and in a ſhort time became a bankrupt. The ſmall education our author received was at the grammar-ſchool of the city of Drogheda, under Mr. Clark. On the failure of his father he was recalled to Dublin, where, having no certain employment, he became attached to the theatre; and before he arrived at the age of ſeventeen years, produced a drama intituled, "Love in a Miſt," performed ſeveral nights at the theatre in Smock Alley. By means of this performance having

introduced himſelf to an acquaintance with the actors, he was prevailed on to engage with an itinerant manager, with whom he came to England; and in this profeſſion he continued, with little variation, until his death.

As as actor he obtained little reputation. His figure was totally againſt him, either for tragedy or genteel comedy. His diffidence was too great to be ever overcome; and his voice was diſſonant and offenſive to the ear. He is ſaid, however, to have ſhewn, in general, a good conception of his author, and as the repreſentative of a mock French character, was not wholly undeſerving of praiſe.

After he had publiſhed ſome his beſt performances, he acquired reputation enough to receive an invitation from ſome bookſellers in London, who propoſed to employ him in ſome works of literature, by which he might obtain a livelihood, in a manner more eaſy and honourable than that in which he had been hitherto engaged. Convinced of the propriety of acceding to this propoſal, he repaired from Edinburgh to London; but had hardly ſet foot in the capital before he was ſatisfied of the impracticability of the ſcheme. The bookſeller by

by whom he was to have been employed had ſtopped payment; and the attention of the publick was ſo entirely engroſſed by ſcandal and political altercation, that he left the town with precipitation after a ſhort and diſagreeable ſtay in it, and once more rejoined his friends in the North.

This was the only effort he ever made to emerge from the abject ſituation in which youthful imprudence had originally placed him. But with this ſtate he appeared by no means diſſatisfied. Competence and obſcurity were all he deſired. He had no views of ambition; and indolence had poſſeſſed him ſo entirely, that he never made a ſecond attempt. In a letter to a friend he deſcribes himſelf in theſe terms: "You may remember my laſt expedi-
"tion to London. I think I may be convinced
"by it that I am not calculated for the buſi-
"neſs you mention. Though I ſcribble (but
"a little neither) to amuſe myſelf, the mo-
"ment I conſidered it as my duty it would
"ceaſe to be an amuſement, and I ſhould of
"conſequence be weary on t. I am not en-
"terprizing; and tolerably happy in my pre-
"ſent ſituation."

The remainder of his life paſſed in one uniform ſtrain. A few months before his death, being incapable of any theatrical exertion, he was removed to the houſe of his friend Mr. Slack, of Newcaſtle, who with great kindneſs received him under his roof, and paid every attention to him which his ſtate required. After lingering ſome time under a nervous diſorder, during which he burnt all his papers, he died the 18th of September, 1773, and was buried in St. John's church-yard, Newcaſtle, where, on a tombſtone erected to his memory, is the following inſcription:

Here lie the remains of
JOHN CUNNINGHAM.
Of his excellence
As a paſtoral poet,
His works will remain a monument
For ages
After this temporary tribute of eſteem
Is in duſt forgotten.
He died in Newcaſtle, Sept. 18, 1773,
Aged 44.

GREEN.

MATTHEW GREEN was of a family in good repute amongſt the Diſſenters, and had his education in that ſect. He was a man of approved probity, and ſweetneſs of temper and manners. His wit abounded in converſation, and was never knewn to give the leaſt offence. He had a poſt in the Cuſtom-houſe, and diſcharged the duty there with the utmoſt diligence and ability. He died about 1737, at the age of 41 years, in Nag's-head-court, Grace-church-ſtreet.

To the above account, which was furniſhed by Mr. Glover, author of "Leonidas," it may be added, that Mr. Green had not much learning, but knew a little Latin. He was very

ſubject to the hyp, had ſome free notions on religious ſubjects; and, though bred amongſt the Diſſenters, grew diſguſted at the preciſeneſs and formality of the ſect. He was nephew to Mr. Tanner, clerk of Fiſhmongers-hall. His poem intituled "Spleen" was written by piece-meal; and would never have been compleated, had he not been preſſed to it by his friend Mr. Glover. By this gentleman (who poſſeſſed, as he informed a perſon juſt before his death, many manuſcripts of Mr. Green) it was committed to the preſs.

Mr. Green publiſhed nothing in his lifetime. In 1732 he printed and gave away a few copies of "The Grotto" It has been obſerved by Mr. Melmoth, that there are more original thoughts thrown together in the poem of "Spleen," than he had ever read in the ſame compaſs of lines.

In the "European Magazine" for July 1785, are ſome further anecdotes of our author.

GOLDSMITH.

OLIVER GOLDSMITH was the third ſon of the Rev. Charles Goldſmith, and was born at Elphin, in the county of Roſcommon in Ireland, in the year 1729. After being inſtructed in the claſſicks at the ſchool of Mr. Hughes, he was admitted as Sizer in Trinity College, Dublin, the 11th of June, 1744; and on the 27th of February, 1749, O. S. two years after the regular time, he obtained the degree of batchelor of arts. Intending to devote himſelf to the ſtudy of phyſick, he left Dublin, and proceeded to Edinburgh in 1751, where he continued until the beginning of the year 1754, when, having

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having imprudently engaged to pay a conſiderable ſum of money for a fellow ſtudent, he was obliged precipitately to quit the place.

He made his eſcape as far as Sunderland, but there was overtaken by the emiſſaries of the law, and arreſted. From this ſituation he was releaſed by the friendſhip of Mr. Laughlin Maclane and Dr. Sleigh. He then took his paſſage on board a Dutch ſhip to Rotterdam; from whence, after a ſhort ſtay, he proceeded to Bruſſels. He then viſited great part of Flanders; and after paſſing ſometime at Straſburgh and Louvain, where he obtained a degree of batchelor of phyſick, he accompanied an Engliſh gentleman to Geneva.

This tour, we are told, was made for the moſt part on foot. He had left England with little money; and being of a thoughtleſs turn, and at that time poſſeſſing a body capable of ſuſtaining any fatigue, he proceeded reſolutely in gratifying his curioſity by the ſight of different countries. He had ſome knowledge of the French language, and of muſick: he played tolerably well on the German flute, which now at times became the means of his ſubſiſtence. His learning produced him a hoſpitable reception

at

at moſt of the religious houſes that he viſited, and his muſick made him welcome to the peaſants of Flanders and Germany. "Whenever "I approached a peaſant's houſe toward night-"fall," he uſed to ſay, "I played one of my "moſt merry tunes; and that generally pro-"cured me not only a lodging, but ſubſiſtence "for the next day: but, *in truth*, (his conſtant "expreſſion) I muſt own, whenever I attempt-"ed to entertain perſons of a higher rank, they "always thought my performance odious, and "never made me any return for my endeavours "to pleaſe them."

On his arrival at Geneva he was recommended as a proper perſon for a travelling tutor to a young gentleman, who had unexpectedly been left a conſiderable ſum of money by a near relation. This connexion laſted but a ſhort time: they diſaggreed in the South of France, and parted. Friendleſs and deſtitute, Dr. Goldſmith was again left expoſed to all the miſeries of indigence in a foreign country. He, however, bore them with great fortitude; and, having by this time ſatisfied his curioſity abroad, he bent his courſe towards England,

and

and arrived at Dover the beginning of the year 1758.

On his return he found himſelf ſo poor that it was with difficulty he was enabled to reach the metropolis with a few half pence only in his pocket. He was an entire ſtranger, and without any recommendation. He offered himſelf to ſeveral apothecaries in the character of a journeyman, but had the mortification to find every application without ſucceſs. At length he was admitted into the houſe of a chemiſt, and was employed in his laboratory until he diſcovered the reſidence of his friend Dr. Sleigh, who patronized and ſupported him. He afterwards was an aſſiſtant to Dr. Milner, who kept an academy at Peckham; but, being introduced to ſome bookſellers, he relinquiſhed his ſituation at the ſchool, and commenced author. His firſt works were "The Bee," a weekly pamphlet, and "The "Enquiry into the preſent State of polite Lite-"rature in Europe." He then reſided in Green-arbour-court, near the Old-bailey, from whence he removed to the Temple, where he lived during the reſt of his life.

From

From the year 1759 to the time of his death his works were very numerous, and on a great variety of ſubjects. In 1765 he eſtabliſhed his fame by the publication of "The Traveller." In 1766 "The Vicar of Wakefield" appeared. In 1768 "The Goodnatured Man" was acted at Covent Garden. In 1769 he publiſhed "The Deſerted Village," and in 1772 "She "Stoops to Conquer" was repreſented at the ſame theatre. Beſides theſe, he ſubmitted to the drudgery of compiling Hiſtories of England, of Greece, of Rome, of "The Earth and Ani-"mated Nature," which procured for him more money than fame. Juſt before his death he had formed a deſign for executing an Univerſal Dictionary of Arts and Sciences; a plan which met with no encouragement.

Though his writings produced great emolument, he was generally neceſſitous; to which an improvident generoſity, and a ridiculous habit of gaming a good deal contributed. He had been for ſome years afflicted with a ſtrangury, which brought on a kind of habitual deſpondency. At length, in March 1774, finding himſelf out of order, he, againſt the advice of his phyſician, took ſo large a portion

of

of a medicine of violent operation, that it was ſuppoſed to have contributed to his diſſolution on the 4th of April, 1774. He was buried in the Temple Churchyard, and a monument has been erected to his memory in Weſtminſter Abbey.

P. WHITEHEAD.

PAUL WHITEHEAD was the youngeſt ſon of Mr. Edmund Whitehead, a tradeſman, ſaid to have been a taylor in Caſtle-yard, Holborn, and was born in 1710, on St. Paul's day, from which circumſtance he obtained the Chriſtian name he bore. He received his education from a clergyman at Hitchin in Hertfordſhire. Being intended for trade, he was placed an apprentice to a mercer in London; but, diſliking his ſituation, he ſoon quitted it, and entered himſelf of the Temple, in order to ſtudy the law.

Being acquainted with Mr. Fleetwood, the manager of Drury-lane theatre, he was prevailed upon by that gentleman to become bound with him for the payment of a con-

conſiderable ſum of money, which, when it became due, the manager was unable to diſcharge. He abſconded, therefore, and left Mr. Whitehead anſwerable for it, who, being arreſted, was confined for ſeveral years within the walls of the Fleet Priſon.

His firſt performance was "The State "Dunces," inſcribed to Mr. Pope, in 1733; and in 1738 he publiſhed "Manners," a ſatire, in which ſome nobleman having been treated with very little reſpect, a complaint was made to the Houſe of Lords, and on the 12th February, 1738-9, it was voted to be ſcandalous, and Dodſley the publiſher of it was taken into cuſtody by the Black Rod, and confined a week. On this occaſion Mr. Whitehead withdrew until the ſtorm was over.

His next performance was "The Gymna-"ſiad," publiſhed in 1744; and that was ſucceeded by "Honour, a Satire," in 1747. At this period the Prince of Wales being in oppoſition to the Court, Mr. Whitehead connected himſelf with that party, and was author of the celebrated pamphlet, called "The Caſe of the "honourable Alexander Murray," which fell under the cenſure of the Houſe of Commons,

who

who procured Mr. Owen, the publiſher, to be proſecuted for vending it. In 1755 he publiſhed "The Epiſtle to Dr. Thompſon."

He had, in the year 1735, married Miſs Dyer, only daughter of Sir Swinnerton Dyer, of Spains Hall in Eſſex, with whom he is ſaid to have received 10,000l. She died young; and Mr. Whitehead, after his releaſe from Fleetwood's debt, lived in a ſtate of independence, if not affluence. He was particularly attached to Lord Le Deſpenſer, at whoſe houſe he almoſt conſtantly reſided, and by whom he was held in an equal degree of eſtimation. To this nobleman he bequeathed his heart, with 50l. for an urn, deſiring it to be placed in ſome corner of his lordſhip's mauſoleum, as a memorial of its warm attachment to the noble founder.

For ſome time before Mr. Whitehead's death he lingered under a ſevere illneſs, during which he employed himſelf in burning his manuſcripts. Though his diſorder was ſuch as no medicine would reach, he bore the excruciating pains which he ſuffered with great reſignation, and died December 30, 1774. On the 13th of Auguſt following his heart was depoſited, as he deſired, with great pomp and ceremony.

ARMSTRONG.

JOHN ARMSTRONG was born in Caſtleton pariſh, Roxboroughſhire, where his father and brother were both miniſters. He compleated his education in the Univerſity of Cambridge; and took his degree in phyſick, February 4, 1732, with much reputation. He ſoon after came to the metropolis, where he was more ſucceſsful as an author than a phyſician.

In 1737 he publiſhed his celebrated, though too licentious, poem, called, "The Œconomy "of Love;" which has paſſed through many editions, more, it is to be feared, to the advantage of the bookſeller than to the reader.

In

In 1744 he produced "The Art of preſerving Health;" a work, in which, an excellent critick obſerves, there is a claſſical correctneſs and cloſeneſs of ſtyle that are truly admirable.

In 1746 he was appointed one of the phyſicians to the Hoſpital for lame and ſick Soldiers behind Buckingham Houſe; and in 1760 went phyſician to the army in Germany. He was the author of ſeveral medical works, which do not appear to have acquired much reputation.

He died in September 1779; and, to the ſurprize of his friends, left a conſiderable ſum of money, ſaved by great parſimony out of a very moderate income ariſing from his half-pay.

LANGHORNE.

JOHN LANGHORNE was a native of Kirkby-Stephen in Weſtmoreland. His father was the Reverend Joſeph Langhorne, who died when this his ſon was young. The place of his education is unknown; nor does it appear from what ſeminary he obtained the academical honours by which he was diſtinguiſhed. About the year 1761 he was at Clare-Hall, Cambridge; but his name does not appear in the Liſt of Graduates either here or at Oxford. After entering into holy orders he became tutor to the ſons of Robert Cracroft, Eſq. of Hackthorne in Lincolnſhire, whoſe daughter he afterwards married. In December 1765 he was appointed aſſiſtant at Lincoln's

Inn. His marriage took place in January 1767; and the death of his lady ſoon after produced the monody which does equal honour to the taſte and ſenſibility of the author, and to the virtues of the perſon celebrated. He was a very frequent and miſcellaneous writer, both in verſe and proſe. Beſides a great variety of pieces, to which he affixed his name, he was the author of many others which were anonymous. Some time before his death he was preſented to the living of Blagden in Somerſetſhire. He died on the firſt of April, 1779.

JOHNSON.

SAMUEL JOHNSON was the eldeſt ſon of Michael Johnſon, a bookſeller at Lichfield, in which city this great man was born on the 7th day of September, 1709. The chief part of his education he received under Mr. Hunter, maſter of the free-ſchool of his native city. On the 31ſt of October, 1728, he was admitted of Pembroke College, Oxford, where he was entered a commoner.

He remained in the Univerſity about three years in the whole, when the inability of his father to ſupport him longer compelled him to quit the place without a degree. To maintain himſelf, he condeſcended to accept the office of under-maſter, or uſher, of a free-grammar-ſchool

ſchool at Market-Boſworth in Leiceſterſhire, which he relinquiſhed in a very ſhort time. He reſided in 1733 at Birmingham, and there is ſuppoſed to have been firſt introduced to Mrs. Porter, who about the year 1736 became his wife.

With the ſmall property he acquired with this lady, he attempted to eſtabliſh a boarding-ſchool for young gentlemen at Edial near Lichfield, but without ſucceſs. On this diſappointment he quitted the country in March 1737, in company with Mr. Garrick, and came to London, where he remained during the reſt of his life.

In London he had to contend with all the inconveniencies which a ſtranger, poor and friendleſs, could encounter; and, for the greater part of his life, had no other income than what aroſe from his writings; which, however excellent, afforded but a ſcanty and even precarious ſubſiſtence. In this ſtate, often ſtruggling with adverſity, he paſſed twenty-four years from his arrival in the metropolis.

An uniformity of life ſo unbroken can only be marked by the publication of his works; the principal of which ſhall be enumerated.

On his arrival in town he engaged to write for "The Gentleman's Magazine;" and in 1738 publiſhed "London, a Poem," in imitation of Juvenal. About 1743 he was employed by Oſborn, the bookſeller, in compiling the "Catalogue of the Harleian Library." In 1744 the "Life of Savage" appeared; and in 1746 he undertook to compile the "Dictionary "of the Engliſh Language," which was not compleated until the year 1755.

He did not confine himſelf entirely to this work. In January 1749 "The Vanity of "Human Wiſhes," his ſecond imitation of Juvenal, was publiſhed. In February "Irene" was acted at Drury Lane. In 1750 he began "The Rambler," which was continued until March 1752.

In that year he loſt his wife, whoſe memory he has perpetuated by the excellent "Sermon "written on her Death." In 1755 his Dictionary was publiſhed; and the next year he put forth Propoſals for publiſhing Shakſpeare, with notes. In 1758 he began "The Idler;" and the next year produced "Raſſelas, Prince "of Abyſſinia."

The

The beginning of his preſent Majeſty's reign was favourable to the fortune of Dr. Johnſon. He was amongſt the firſt to whom a penſion was offered. His acceptance of it releaſed him from the neceſſity of continual application, and gave him a reſpite from literary drudgery. Soon afterwards he was introduced to the family of Mr. Thrale, in which he paſſed much of his time, until the death of that gentleman.

In 1765 he publiſhed his edition of "Shak-"ſpeare;" and about the ſame time had the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred on him by the Univerſity of Dublin. He had before had the degree of Maſter of Arts given him, unaſked, by the Univerſity of Oxford. In 1773 he travelled into Scotland; and two years afterwards publiſhed the Narrative of his Tour. He ſeveral times undertook the defence of Adminiſtration againſt the opponents of the Miniſter; and it has been aſſerted, that it was once in contemplation to procure him a ſeat in parliament.

When the work, now reprinted, was undertaken, he engaged to furniſh the Lives of the ſeveral Poets. Theſe were publiſhed at two different times, in 1779 and 1781, and were his

his laſt productions. His health had been ſome time declining; he lingered about a year, and died on the 13th of December, 1784. He was buried in Weſtminſter Abbey; where a monument is about to be erected to his memory.

W. WHITEHEAD.

WILLIAM WHITEHEAD was born at Cambridge, in the beginning of the year 1714-15. His father was a baker in that town, who, through indolence and diſſipation, left nothing behind him but ſome debts, which his ſon very honourably diſcharged. His mother was a very amiable, prudent, and exemplary woman.

Mr. Whitehead received the firſt rudiments of his education at ſome common ſchool at Cambridge; but at the age of fourteen, July 6, 1728, he was removed to Wincheſter, having obtained a nomination into that College by means of Mr. Bromley. At ſchool he was always

always of a delicate turn, and though obliged to go to the hills with the other boys, he ſpent his time there in reading either plays or poetry; and was alſo particularly fond of the "Atalantis," and all other books of private hiſtory or character. He very early exhibited his taſte for poetry; for, while other boys were contented with ſhewing up twelve or fourteen lines, he would fill half a ſheet, but always with Engliſh verſe. When he was ſixteen he wrote a whole comedy.

In the year 1733, the Earl of Peterborough having Mr. Pope at his houſe, near Southampton, carried him to Wincheſter, to ſhew him the college-ſchool. The Earl gave ten guineas to be diſpoſed of in prizes amongſt the boys; and Mr. Pope ſet them a ſubject to write upon, viz. PETERBOROUGH. Prizes of a guinea each were given to ſix of the boys, of whom Whitehead was one. The remaining ſum was laid out for other boys in ſubſcriptions to Pine's Horace, then about to be publiſhed. He enjoyed for ſome little time a lucrative place in the college, that of prepoſitor of the hall.

At

At the election in September 1735, he was treated with ſingular injuſtice, for through the force of ſuperior intereſt he was placed ſo low on the roll, that it was ſcarcely poſſible for him to ſucceed to New College. Being now ſuperannuated he left Wincheſter of courſe, deriving no other advantage from the college than a good education.

Two months after his diſappointment at Wincheſter, he removed to the place of his nativity, where the peculiar circumſtance of his being the orphan ſon of a baker of Cambridge gave him an unexceptionable claim to one of the ſcholarſhips founded at Clare Hall, by Mr. Thomas Pyke of that trade and town. His mother accordingly admitted him a ſizar of this college, under the tuition of Meſſ. Curling, Goddard, and Hopkinſon, November 26, 1735.

The firſt pieces he publiſhed were verſes on public occaſions, the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1736, and the birth of his ſon the preſent king in 1738. In 1741 appeared his epiſtle "On the Danger of writing Verſe," which was followed by "Atys and Adraſtus" in 1743; and that by the "Epiſtle from Ann

"Boleyn

"Boleyn in the Tower to King Henry the Eighth," the ſame year. His next poem was his "Eſſay on Ridicule," which alſo appeared in 1743; and to that ſucceeded "Nobility, an Epiſtle "to the Earl of Aſhburnham." During the time of his being an under-graduate, he lived a very ſtudious life, obſerving the ſtricteſt frugality poſſible, that he might be the leſs burthenſome to an affectionate mother. After taking a very creditable degree, and being emancipated from thoſe mathematical ſtudies for which young men of his tribe ſeldom have much reliſh, he worte, as we have ſeen, rapidly though not careleſsly for the preſs; but this rapidity, as it did not continue through life, probably aroſe at the time rather from a laudable deſire of ſelf-maintenance, than any undue eagerneſs for poetical fame.

In June 1742 he was elected fellow of Clare Hall. In April 1743 he loſt his mother; and in the ſame year commenced Maſter of Arts. His intention at that time was to take orders; and with that view he prepared himſelf for the Church; but ſhortly afterwards a circumſtance occurred, which led him to defer putting this deſign in practice, and in the end occaſioned his relinquiſhing the idea entirely.

tirely. The late Earl of Jerſey was making enquiries after a proper perſon to take the private tuition of his ſecond ſon, now become his only hope, from the death of his elder brother; on which account probably he durſt not truſt him to the dangers of a public education, as his conſtitution appeared to be very delicate. Fortunately for the young Viſcount, Mr. Whitehead was recommended to his father, by Mr. Commiſſary Graves, as a perſon fully qualified for this important charge. His recommendation was ſucceſsful; and Mr. Whitehead, when the offer was made, did not heſitate to accept it. He therefore in the ſummer of 1745 removed to the Earl's houſe, where he was placed upon the moſt liberal footing.

At Michaelmas 1746 he reſigned his fellowſhip; and, having now many intervals of leiſure, he employed himſelf in writing "The "Roman Father," which was acted in 1750. In 1754 he collected his works into a volume, and in the ſame year produced "Creuſa "Queen of Athens." The exhibition of this play was hardly over, before he was called upon to attend his pupil, and Lord Viſcount Nuneham,

Nuneham, ſon to the Earl of Harcourt, in their travels, as their joint Governor.

After paſſing through Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and Holland, he returned to Harwich in September 1756. During his abſence he had received the badges of ſecretary and regiſter of the Order of the Bath; and in 1757 his finances were further improved by the appointment of Poet Laureat. On his arrival in England he was preſſed to continue in the family of Lord Jerſey; and there and in the houſe of Lord Harcourt he reſided for fourteen years.

In 1762 he produced "The School for "Lovers," and in the ſame year his "Charge "to the Poets." In 1770 "The Trip to "Scotland" was acted; and in 1774 he again collected his performances into two volumes. "Variety" was publiſhed in 1776; and "The "Goat's Beard" in 1777. He alſo employed himſelf in other dramas, ſome of which finiſhed, and others imperfect, he left behind him in manuſcript. He died at his lodgings in Charles-ſtreet, Groſvenor Square, April 14, 1785; and was buried in South Audley Chapel.

"Thus having completed," ſays Mr. Maſon, from whom all the particulars of the preceeding

ceding account are taken, his ſeventieth year, he died, retaining all his faculties more perfectly than is uſually the lot of perſons who live to ſuch an age. Of theſe his memory was the moſt remarkable, which, being always ſtrong, continued to that late period with no diminution of vigour. And, as his reading and obſervation had been far more extenſive and various than he had occaſion to exhibit in that mode of writing which he chiefly employed to convey his ſentiments, this accurate retention of what he had by ſtudy acquired made him a living library, always open to communicate its treaſures to his acquaintance, without obtruding itſelf upon them by any oſtentatious diſplay or aſſumed ſuperiority.

JENYNS.

SOAME JENYNS was the only ſon of Sir Roger Jenyns, of Botteſham, in Cambridge, at which place he was born about 1705. His mother's name was Palmer, of the family of Sir Charles Palmer. After a common ſchool education, he was entered a fellow commoner of St. John's College; but left the Univerſity, as was formerly the uſual practice with gentlemen of fortune, without taking any degree.

He early diſplayed his poetical talents. In 1729 he publiſhed "the Art of Dancing;" and, in 1735, wrote his poetical "Epiſtle to Lord "Lovelace." This was followed by ſeveral others, which he collected into a volume in 1752.

On

On the publication of Hawkins Browne's Latin poem on the "Immortality of the Soul," in 1752, Mr. Jenyns made a tranſlation of it into Engliſh, which was publiſhed in 1758, in Dodſley's Collection of Poems. The "Free "Enquiry into the Nature and Origin of Evil" appeared in 1757; and to this ſucceeded ſeveral other performances both in proſe and verſe, either in defence of government, or levelled at ſome perſons in oppoſition to the meaſures of adminiſtration. In 1776 his celebrated work, intituled "A View of the Internal Evidence of "the Chriſtian Religion," was publiſhed; a performance which has been commended in terms of the higheſt praiſe by ſome, whilſt it has been ſpoken of in the ſlighteſt manner by others. At the cloſe of this volume he made a very explicit declaration of his belief in the doctrine of the Chriſtian religion. Speaking of his work, he ſays, "Should it ever have the "honour to be admitted into ſuch good "company, they will immediately, I know, "determine that it muſt be the work of ſome "enthuſiaſt or methodiſt, ſome beggar, or "ſome madman. I ſhall therefore beg leave "to aſſure them, that the author is very far

" removed from all theſe characters; that he once
" perhaps believed as little as themſelves; but
" having ſome leiſure, and more curioſity, he
" employed them both in reſolving a queſ-
" tion, which ſeemed to him of ſome im-
" portance—Whether Chriſtianity was really
" an impoſture, founded on an abſurd, incre-
" dible, and obſolete fable, as many ſuppoſe it?
" or whether it is what it pretends to be, a Re-
" velation, communicated to mankind by the
" interpoſition of ſome Supernatural Power?
" On a candid enquiry, he ſoon found that
" the firſt was an abſolute impoſſibility; and
" that its pretenſions to the latter were founded
" on the moſt ſolid grounds. In the further
" purſuits of his examination, he perceived at
" every ſtep new lights ariſing, and ſome of the
" brighteſt from parts of it the moſt obſcure,
" but productive of the cleareſt proofs, becauſe
" equally beyond the power of human arti-
" fice to invent, and human reaſon to diſ-
" cover. Theſe arguments, which have con-
" vinced him of the divine origin of this reli-
" gion, he has here put together in as clear and
" conciſe a manner as he was able, thinking
" they might have the ſame effect upon others;

"and being of opinion, that, if there were a "few more true Chriſtians in the world, it "would be beneficial to themſelves, and by no "means detrimental to the publick."

In 1782 he publiſhed "Diſquiſitions on "ſeveral ſubjects;" which produced anſwers, both grave and comic, from different hands, and with different degrees of merit. He continued writing almoſt to the cloſe of his life; and he had the felicity to preſerve his faculties unimpaired, and his ſpirits undiminiſhed, to his lateſt period.

He was introduced into the ſenate under the patronage of Sir Robert Walpole, and was elected, firſt, for the county of Cambridge in the year 1741. He repreſented it again in the parliament of 1747. In that of 1754 he was member for Dunwich in Suffolk; and in 1761 took his ſeat for the town of Cambridge, which place he continued to repreſent ſo long as he remained in Parliament.

In 1755 he was appointed one of the lords of trade and plantations, a poſt which he held during every change of adminiſtration, until it was aboliſhed in the year 1780. He was in general an adherent of the miniſter for the time being;

being; and was a uſeful, active, and diligent member of the Houſe of Commons, though he ſhared, as he admitted in one of his poems, no gift of tongue.

He had been twice married: firſt to Miſs Soame, to whom his father had been guardian; and afterwards to the lady whom he left his widow. He died the 18th of December, 1787, at his houſe in Tilney-ſtreet; and on his death-bed, ſays a late writer, he reviewed his life, and with a viſible gleam of joy he gloried in the belief that his little book on Chriſtianity had been uſeful. He ſpoke of his death as one prepared to die. He did not ſhrink from it as an evil, nor as a puniſhment; but met it with decent firmneſs, as his original deſtiny, the kind releaſe from what was worſe, the kinder ſummons to all that is better.

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from Cambridge, and takes ſhelter at St. John's College, Oxford, in 1643, 10. Employed in cyphering and decyphering the letters between the King and Queen, 11. Writes his Miſtreſs without being in love, ib. Secretary to Lord Jermyn at Paris, 13. Some of his letters preſerved in Brown's Miſcellanea Aulica, ib. His opinion of the Scotch Treaty, 14. Sent back from Paris, under pretence of privacy and retirement, 16. Seized by the uſurping powers, and obliged to give ſecurity of 1,000*l.* 17. Suppoſed to relax from his loyalty, ib. Purpoſes to retire to America, ib. Takes up the character of a phyſician, 18. Writes a Copy of Verſes on the Death of Oliver, ib. Made Doctor of Phyſick at Oxford, 1657, 20. Writes in the Philoſophical Tranſactions, ib. Studies Botany, and writes ſeveral Books on Plants in Latin, ib. Superior to Milton in Latin poetry, 21. His Cutter of Coleman-ſtreet treated with great ſeverity. and cenſured as a ſatire on the King's party, 23. Retires into Surrey, 25. Obtains a leaſe of the Queen's lands, 26. His letter to Dr. Sprat, 27. Died at Chertſey, 1667, and buried with great pomp, near Chaucer and Spenſer, 28. Charles II. ſaid, Cowley had not left behind him a better man in England, ib. Was at one time too much praiſed, at another too much neglected, 29. Critical remarks on his poems, 36. The laſt and beſt of the Metaphyſical Poets, 57. Repreſents, that ſpirits operate on the mind by ſuggeſtion, 86. Deſcribes Heaven negatively, 87. Read much, and borrowed little, 88. His character as a poet, ib. Character of, by Sir John Denham, 114.

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DORSET, CHARLES SACKVILLE, Earl of, life of, ii. 82. Born Jan. 24, 1637, ib. Educated under a private tutor, and travelled through Italy, ib. Member for Eaſt Grinſtead in the firſt parliament after the Reſtoration, ib. Becomes a favourite of King Charles II. ib. One of his frolicks, 83. A volunteer in the fleet under the Duke of York, 84. Made a gentleman of the bedchamber, and ſent on ſhort embaſſies to France, ib.

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the ſucceſs of every poetical and literary performance, 173. He wrote the lives of Polybius, Lucian, and Plutarch, and tranſlated the firſt book of Tacitus, ib. Aſſiſted in tranſlating Ovid's Epiſtles, and adds a preface on tranſlation, 174. Writes Abſalom and Achitophel, which is ſeveral times anſwered, ib. Medal, which is anſwered by Settle and others, 176. After the acceſſion of James, declared himſelf a convert to Popery, 178. Engaged to defend the papers found in the ſtrong box of Charles II. 180. Tranſlates Maimburg's Hiſtory of the League, and the life of Francis Xavier, ib. Suppoſed to have undertaken to tranſlate Varillas' Hiſtory of Hereſies, and to have anſwered Burnet, 181. Burnet's obſervation on the Anſwer, ib. Publiſhes the Hind and Panther, which is anſwered by the Earl of Halifax, Prior, Tom Brown, &c. 183. Writes on the birth of a Prince, 186. At the Revolution, loſes the place of Laureat, 187. Celebrates Shadwell's inauguration in Mac Flecknoe, ib. Lord Dorſet is ſaid to have continued the ſalary of Laureat to him, ib. In 1690, writes Don Sebaſtian; and in 1691, four other dramas, 189. In 1693, publiſhes his tranſlation of Juvenal and Perſius, ib. Purpoſes writing an epic poem, either on Arthur or the Black Prince, ib. He charged Blackmore with ſtealing his plan, 191. In 1694, begins his tranſlation of Virgil, which he publiſhes in 1697, ib. Tranſlates Freſnoy's Art of Painting into Engliſh proſe, ib. Fables, his laſt work, publiſhed in 1699, 192. Doubts reſpecting the perſon who firſt ſet the Ode on St. Cecilia's Day, to muſick, ib. Died in Gerard-ſtreet May 1, 1701, 193. A wild ſtory reſpecting his funeral,

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FENTON, ELIJAH, his life, iii. 311. Born near Newcaſtle in Staffordſhire, ib. Educated at Cambridge, ib. Refuſed to take the oaths, 312. Secretary to Charles Earl of Orrery, and tutor to his ſon, ib. Schoolmaſter at Sevenoaks in Kent, 313. Writes in praiſe of Queen Anne, and extols the Duke of Marlborough, ib. Undertakes to inſtruct Secretary Craggs, 314. Aſſiſts Pope in tranſlating the Odyſſey, ib. Gains near 1000*l.* by his tragedy of Mariamne, 315. Died at Lady Trumbull's in 1730, 317. His character, ib. Account of his works, 319. Pope's letter to Mr. Broome on the death of Fenton, 321. Aſſiſted Pope in the tranſlation of the Odyſſey, iv. 303. v. 72. Pope's epitaph on him, with the Viſitor's criticiſms, 223.

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GABRIEL, his dreſs deſcribed, i. 83.

GARTH, Sir SAMUEL, his life, iii. 73. Deſcended from a family in Yorkſhire, ib. Student at Cambridge, ib. Admitted Fellow of the College of Phyſicians, London, July 26, 1693, ib. Writes the Diſpenſary, a Poem, 74. Spoke the Harveian oration, 1697, 77. Cenſor of the College, ib. Member of the Kit-cat club, 78. Knighted, and made phyſician in ordinary to the King, and phyſician general to the army, ib. Died Jan. 17, 1717-18, and buried at Harrow on the Hill, ib. His character, and that of his works, ib.

GAY, JOHN, his life, v. 1. Born in Devonſhire in 1688, ib. Educated under Mr. Luck, ib. Apprentice to a ſilk-mercer in London, ib. Secretary to the Ducheſs of Monmouth, 2. Inſcribes his firſt publication to Pope, ib. Secretary to the Earl of Clarendon, 4. Dedicates his Shepherd's Week to Bolingbroke, ib. Pope and

and Arbuthnot ſuppoſed to have aſſiſted him in writing Three Hours after Marriage, 6. Gained 1,000*l.* by publiſhing his poems, 7. Became poſſeſſed of the value of 20,000*l.* in the South Sea ſtock, which he loſt, ib. Appointed Gentleman Uſher to the Princeſs Louiſa, which he refuſes, and is afterwards neglected by the Court, 9. Pope's account of the origin and ſucceſs of the Beggar's Opera, 10. His Polly prohibited by the Lord Chamberlain, 13. Patronized by the Duke and Ducheſs of Queenſberry, 14. Died Dec. 4, 1732, and buried in Weſtminſter Abbey, ib. His character, 15. Account of his works, 16. Pope's epitaph on him, with the Viſitor's criticiſms, v. 224.

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GOLDSMITH, OLIVER, character of, as a writer, iii. 67. His life, vi. 169. Son of the Rev. Charles Goldſmith, ib. Born at Elphin in the county of Roſcommon, in Ireland, 1729, ib. Admitted ſizar in Trinity College, Dublin, June 11, 1744; and B. A. 1749, ib. Proceeded to Edinburgh in 1751 in order to ſtudy phyſic, ib. Leaves Edinburgh, and proceeds to Rotterdam, from whence he proceeds to Bruſſels, 170. Viſits part of Flanders, ib. Obtains a degree of B. M. at Louvain, ib. Accompanies an Engliſh gentleman to Geneva, ib. Had ſome knowledge of the French language, and of muſick, ib. Played tolerably well on the German flute, which at times became the means of his ſubſiſtence, ib. Recommended as a proper perſon for a travelling tutor to a young gentleman, 171. They diſagreed in the South of France, and parted; by which means Dr. Goldſmith was left friendleſs and deſtitute, expoſed to all

all the miſeries of indigence in a foreign country, ib. Bends his courſe towards England, and arrives at Dover in the beginning of 1758, 172. Reaches London with a few half-pence only in his pocket, ib. Applies to ſeveral apothecaries for employment as a journeyman, but without ſucceſs, ib. Admitted into the houſe of a chemiſt, by whom he was employed in the laboratory, ib. Diſcovers the reſidence of his friend Dr. Sleigh, who patronizes and ſupports him, ib. Aſſiſtant to Dr. Milner, who kept an academy at Peckham; but, on being introduced to ſome booksellers, he relinquiſhed the ſchool, and commenced author, ib. Publiſhes The Bee, a weekly pamphlet, and The Enquiry into the preſent State of Polite Literature in Europe, ib. From the year 1759 to the time of his death, which happened April 4, 1774, his works were very numerous, 173. The chief of his works enumerated, ib. Buried in the Temple church-yard, 174. A monument has been erected to his memory in Weſtminſter Abbey, ib.

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after ſent to the Tower, ib. Releaſed, 29. Writes in defence of Gen. Monk and Sſr R. Greenville, ib. Publiſhed a ſplendid edition of his works, 1732, 30. Died Jan. 30, 1735, ib. His character, ib. His works characterized, 31.

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GRAY, THOMAS, his life, vi. 109. Son of a ſcrivener in London, born 1716, ib. Educated at Eton, and entered at Peter-houſe, Cambridge, ib. Travels through France into Italy, with Mr. Horace Walpole, 110. They quarrel at Florence, and finiſh their travels ſeparately, ib. Retires to Cambridge, where he becomes Bachelor of Civil Law, 111. Loſes his friend Mr. Weſt, ib. Applies ſeriouſly to poetry, 1742, 112. Intended to excel in Latin poetry, ib. Removes to Pembroke Hall, ib. Several of his pieces publiſhed with Bentley's Deſigns, 1753, 113. Refuſes the place of Poet Laureat, 115. Aſks for the place of Profeſſor of Modern Hiſtory, but is refuſed, ib. Takes a journey into Scotland, 1765, ib. Is appointed Profeſſor of Hiſtory, 116. Viſits Weſtmoreland and Cumberland, 1769, ib. Died in 1771, 117. His character by the Rev. Mr. Temple, ib. Additions by Mr. Maſon, 119. His account of Lord Shafteſbury, 120. His works characterized, 121.

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Guardian, account of that periodical publication, iii. 130.

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HALIFAX, CHALES MONTAGUE, Earl of, his life, iii. 59. Born at Horton, in Northamptonſhire, April 16, 1661, ib. King's Scholar at Weſtminſter, 60. Solicited to be removed to Cambridge, on account of his friendſhip with Mr. Stepney, ib. Joined Prior in the City Mouſe and Country Mouſe, 61. Signed the invitation to the Prince of Orange, and ſat in the Convention, ib. Married the Counteſs Dowager of Manchester, ib. Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1694, 62. Completed a re-coinage, ib. Projected the general fund, and raiſed the credit of the Exchequer, ib. Impeached by the Commons, but the articles were diſmiſſed by the Lords, 63. Diſmiſſed from the Council by Queen Anne, ib. Again attacked by the Commons, and protected by the Lords, ib. Writes an anſwer to Bromley's ſpeech againſt Occaſional Conformity, ib. Heads the Enquiry into the Danger of the Church, ib.

Negotiated the Union with Scotland, ib. Appointed one of the Regents at the death of the Queen, ib. Created Earl of Halifax, by Geo. I. 64. Made a Knight of the Garter, and firſt Commiſſioner of the Treaſury, with a grant to his nephew of the reverſion of the Auditorſhip of the Exchequer, ib. Died May 19, 1715, ib. Flattered by all the poets of the time, except Swift and Pope, ib. Fed with Dedications, and no Dedicator went unrewarded, ib. Rather a pretender to taſte than really poſſeſſed of it, v. 54. Story of Pope's reading his tranſlation of the Iliad to him, ib.

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Henry II. Story of the publication of his Life by Lord Lyttelton, vi. 139.

Hertford, Counteſs of, obtains Savage's pardon for the murder of Sinclair, iv. 104.

Hill, Aaron, a friend to Savage, iv. 87. Corrects Savage's tragedy of Sir T. Overbury, and writes the Prologue and Epilogue, 88. Encourages a volume of Savage's Miſcellany of Poems, by publiſhing his ſtory in the Plain

Plain Dealer, and by which ſeventy guineas was left for him in a few days, 91.

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HUGHES, JOHN, his life, iii. 198. Born at Marlborough, in Wiltſhire, ib. Educated in a Diſſenter's academy, ib. Became ſkilled in poetry and muſick, ib. Held a place in the office of Ordnance, 199. Tranſlated Fontenelle's Dialogues of the Dead, and added two new ones, which

he dedicated to Lord Wharton, who promiſed to provide for him in Ireland, 200. Aſſiſted in the Tatler, Spectator, and Guardian, 201. Made Secretary to the Commiſſioners of Peace, 1717, 203. Died in 1719-20, 204. Account of his works, ib. His character according to Swift and Pope, 205.

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JAMES I. King, a remarkable converſation between him and the Biſhop of Durham and Wincheſter ii. 2.

JENYNS, SOAME, his life, vi. 194. Only ſon of Sir Roger Jenyns, ib. Born at Botteſham, in Cambridge, 1705, ib. Entered a fellow commoner of St. John's College, but left the Univerſity without taking a degree, ib. Early diſplayed his poetical talents, ib. In 1729 publiſhed The Art of Dancing, ib. In 1735 wrote the Epiſtle to Lord Lovelace, ib. Collected his poems into one volume in 1752, ib. Tranſlates Hawkins Browne's poem on the Immortality of the Soul, into Engliſh, which was publiſhed in 1758, 195. Publiſhes the Free Enquiry into the nature and origin of Evil, in 1757, ib. Publiſhes A View of the Internal Evidence of the Chriſtian Religion, ib. Publiſhes Diſquiſitions on ſeveral ſubjects, 197. Introduced into the ſenate under the patronage

patronage of Sir Robert Walpole, ib. Appointed one of the lords of trade and plantations in 1755, ib. Died Dec. 18, 1787, 198.

JOHNSON, SAMUEL, his life, vi. 182. Son of Michael Johnſon, a bookſeller of Lichfield, ib. Born Sept. 7, 1709, ib. Educated at the free-ſchool of Lichfield, his native city, ib. Admitted of Pembroke College, Oxford, Oct. 31, 1728, ib. Accepts the office of undermaſter, or uſher, of a free-grammar-ſchool at Market-Boſworth, Leiceſterſhire, ib. Relinquiſhes this place, 183. Marries Mrs. Porter about 1736, ib. Attempts to eſtabliſh a boarding-ſchool at Edial, near Lichfield, but without ſucceſs, ib. Accompanies Mr. Garrick to London, where he remained till his death, ib. Engages to write for The Gentleman's Magazine, 184. Publiſhes, in 1738, London, a Poem, ib. Engages, about 1743, with Oſborn, the bookſeller, to compile the Catalogue of the Harleian Library, ib. In 1744 his Life of Savage appeared, ib. In 1746 undertook to compile the Dictionary of the Engliſh Language, ib. In Jan. 1749 his Vanity of Human Wiſhes, was publiſhed, ib. In the February following, Irene, a tragedy, was acted at Drury Lane, ib. Began The Rambler in 1750, ib. Loſes his wife, ib. Perpetuates her memory by an excellent Sermon on her Death, ib. Puts forth propoſals for publiſhing Shakſpeare with Notes, ib. Began The Idler in 1758, ib. In 1759 he produced Raſſelas, Prince of Abyſſinia, ib. The beginning of his preſent Majeſty's reign favourable to Dr. Johnſon, 185. Amongſt the firſt to whom a penſion was offered, which he gratefully accepted, ib. Pub-

liſhed his edition of Shakſpeare in 1765, ib. About the ſame time had the degree of M. D. conferred on him by the Univerſity of Dublin, ib. The Univerſity of Oxford preſent him with the degree of M. A. ib. Travels into Scotland in 1773, ib. Publiſhes in 1775 a Narrative of his Tour, ib. Undertook ſeveral times to defend the Adminiſtration againſt the Miniſter's opponents, ib. The Lives of the Poets his laſt production, 186. Died Dec. 13, 1784, ib. Buried in Weſtminſter Abbey, ib.

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Irene, a tragedy, acted at Drury Lane, 1749, 184.

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KING, WILLIAM, his life, iii. 43. Born in London, 1663, and allied to the family of Clarendon, ib. Scholar at Weſtminſter, and elected to Chriſt-Church, ib. Was ſaid to have read over and made remarks on more than 22,000 books and MSS. before he was of eight years ſtanding, ib. Took his Maſter's degree as Grand Compounder, 44. Admitted Advocate at Doctors Commons, ib. Wrote a Confutation of Varillas's Account of Wickliffe, ib. Tranſlates ſeveral books from the French, ib. Anſwers Moleſworth's Account of Denmark, ib. Mingled in the controverſy between Boyle

Boyle and Bentley, 45. In 1699, writes a Journey to London, ib. Satirizes Sir Hans Sloane in the Tranſactioneer, ib. Signalizes himſelf in defence of the Earl of Angleſea againſt his Lady, ib. Made Judge of the Admiralty, and Keeper of the Records in Birmingham's Tower, 46. Finds an idle and thoughtleſs friend in Judge Upton, ib. Returns to London in 1708, ib. Account of his works, 47. Made Gazetteer, which he ſoon reſigned, 48. Died on Chriſtmas-day, 1712, ib.

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Lee, *Nath.* in conjunction with Dryden wrote the Duke of Guiſe and Oedipus, ii. 157.

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LLOYD, ROBERT, his life, vi. 160. Son of Dr. Pearſon Lloyd, ib. Received his education at Weſtminſter-ſchool, ib. Born in 1733, ib. Sent to Trinity College, Cambridge, ib. Took the degree of B. A. 1755; and M. A. 1761, ib. Returned to Weſtminſter, and became aſſiſtant to his father as one of the uſhers of the ſchool, 161. The Progreſs of Envy, written in 1750, ib. Publiſhed The Actor in 1760; ſoon after which he quitted his employment of uſher, determining to rely on his pen for ſupport, ib. In this plan he was unſucceſsful, ib. Became a priſoner in the Fleet, ib. Died Dec. 15, 1764, 162. Buried in the church-yard of St. Bride's pariſh, ib. His character, ib.

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Lycidas, written by Milton, in 1637, i. 128. Character of that poem, 214.

LYTTELTON, GEORGE, his life, vi. 131. Son of Sir Thomas Lyttelton of Hagley, Worceſterſhire; born 1709, ib. Educated at Eton, and removed to Chriſt Church, ib. A very early writer both in verſe and proſe, ib. Leaves Oxford 1728, and travels through France and Italy, 132. An opponent in parliament to Sir R. Walpole, ib. Secretary to the Prince of Wales, 133. Introduces Thomſon and Mallet into the ſuit of the Prince of Wales, ib. Lord of the Treaſury 1744 134. Writes obſervations on the converſion of St. Paul, 1747, 135. His father's letter to him on that publication, ib. Succeeds his father in the title of Baronet 1751, 136. Becomes Cofferer and Privy Counſellor 1754, ib. Chancellor of the Exchequer 1755, ib. Travels into Wales, ib. Patroniſes Archibald Bower, ib. Publiſhes Dialogues of the Dead, 137. Created Lord Lyttelton, 138. Story of the publication of his life of Henry II. 138. Account of his laſt illneſs and death, 1763, by his phyſician, 139. His Epitaph, 143. His poetical works characterized, ib.

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and Italy, ib. Entered into the ſea ſervice, ib. Early given to intemperance, 283. Gentleman of the Bed-chamber, and Comptroller of Woodſtock Park, 284. Mentioned by Wood as the greateſt ſcholar of all the nobility, ib. His favourite authors, Boileau and Cowley, 285. Purſues a life of drunken gaiety, ib. Becomes acquainted with Dr. Burnet, which produced a total change of his manners and opinions, ib. Died July 26, 1680, 286. His character, ib. Many things imputed to him which he is ſuppoſed not to have written, ib. The firſt edition of his works printed the year after his death, ib. Antwerp in the title-page, 287. Character of his works, ib. His poem on Nothing criticized, 288. This poem is the ſtrongeſt effort of his Muſe, ib. His Praiſe of Satire criticized, 289. His Satire againſt Man criticized, 290. Takes E. Settle under his protection, ii. 170.

ROSCOMMON, WENTWORTH DILLON, Earl of, his life, i. 294. Son of James Dillon, Earl of Roſcommon, born in Ireland, ib. Educated in Yorkſhire, at his uncle's, Lord Strafford's, ib. Wrote Latin with purity and elegance, though never able to retain the rules of grammar, ib. Sent to Caen, to Study under Bochart, 295. Is ſaid to have had preter-natural intelligence of his father's death, ib. The credit to be given to ſuch intelligence, 296. Travels into Italy, 297. At the Reſtoration returns to England, is made Captain of the Band of Penſioners, and addicts himſelf immediately to gaming, ib. Goes to Ireland, and is made Captain of the Guards, 298. Attacked by three ruffians, on his return from the gaming-table, is reſcued by

by a half-pay officer, to whom he reſigns his commiſſion in the guards, ib. Returns to England, and marries a daughter of the Earl of Burlington, 299. Forms a plan of a ſociety for reforming our language, ib. Purpoſes to retire to Rome, but is attacked by the gout, and, ſubmitting himſelf to a French empirick, dies, 1684, 302. Is buried in Weſtminſter-Abbey, ib. His poetical character, ib. Dryden's opinion of Roſcommon's Eſſay on Tranſlated Verſe, 304. His Art of Poetry praiſed, 307. Account of his other pieces, ib. Mrs. Philips's opinion of ſome of his works, 308.

ROWE, NICHOLAS, the firſt who had three nights of a new play, ii. 166. His life, iii. 81. Born at Little Beckford, Bedfordſhire, 1673, ib. Educated at Weſtminſter, under Buſby, 82. A ſtudent of the Middle-Temple, ib. At twenty-five produced the Ambitious Step-mother, 83. Tamerlane in 1702, ib. Fair Penitent in 1703, 84. Ulyſſes in 1706. Royal Convert, 1708, 81. The Biter, a comedy, 1706, 82. Jane Shore, 1714, 87. Lady Jane Grey, 1715, ib. Publiſhes an edition of Shakſpeare in 1709, 88. Under-ſecretary to the Duke of Queenſbury, 89. Adviſed by Lord Oxford to ſtudy Spaniſh, ib. Succeeded N. Tate as Poet-Laureat, 90. Land-Surveyor of the Cuſtoms, ib. Clerk of the Council to the Prince of Wales, ib. Secretary of the Preſentations, ib. His life, as prefixed to his tranſlation of Lucan's Pharſalia, by Dr. Welwood, 91. Died Dec. 6, 1718, and buried in Weſtminſter-Abbey, 94. The teſtimony of Pope in his favour, 95. Chiefly conſidered as a tragic author and tranſlator, 96. Character of his works, ib. Pope's epitaph

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Satire, Lord Rocheſter's praiſe of, criticiſed, i. 289.

SAVAGE, RICHARD, his life, iv. 61. Born Jan. 10, 1697, a ſon of Earl Rivers by the Counteſs of Macclesfield, 63. Left to the care of his mother, who abandons him, 64. Committed to the care of a poor woman, to be brought up as her own ſon, 66. Lady Maſon, his grand-mother, takes ſome care of him, 67. His god-mother, Mrs. Lloyd, left him 300*l.* which was never paid him, ib. Placed at a ſmall grammar-ſchool

near St. Albans, ib. Lord Rivers on his death-bed enquires particularly of him, and his aſſured by his mother that he was dead, by which he loſes 6000*l.* left him by his father, 6 . His mother attempts to ſend him to America ſecretly, 70. His mother places him with a ſhoe-maker in Holborn, 71. On the death of his nurſe, diſcovers his parents, ib. Applies to his mother, who reſolves to neglect him, 72. Became an author through neceſſity, 73. Publiſhes his firſt Poems againſt the Biſhop of Bangor, ib. Writes his firſt play, Woman's a Riddle, in his eighteenth year, 74. At twenty writes Love in a Veil, ib. Is patronized by Sir Richard Steele, ib. Story of his going with Sir R. Steele, and writing a pamphlet, which he ſells for two guineas, to raiſe money, 76. Steele propoſes to marry one of his natural daughters to Savage, 78. Steele diſcards him, ib. Through the interceſſion of Wilks, obtains 50*l.* from his mother, 81. Frequents the Stage, and becomes acquainted with Mrs. Oldfield, who allows him 50*l.* a year during her life, 82. Mr. Wilks occaſionally allows him a benefit, which is counteracted by his mother, 84. Writes the tragedy of Sir Tho. Overbury, 86. Cibber corrects the tragedy, 87. Experiences the friendſhip of Aaron Hill, who writes the Prologue and Epilogue to the tragedy of Overbury, ib. Acts the part of Overbury, 88. Seventy guineas left for Savage, by Mr. Hill's publiſhing his caſe in the Plain Dealer, 91. His flattery of Lady M. W. Montague in his Dedication to his volume of Poems, 92. Adds to his reputation by his Poem on the Death of George I. 93. Account of his killing Mr. James Sinclair,

clair, 94. His trial and defence, 97. Is found guilty of murder, 100. He obtains a pardon, although it had been greatly obſtructed by his mother, 101. Further accounts of his mother's enmity, 104. Meets the principal evidence againſt him in diſtreſs, and divides his only guinea with her, 108. His own opinion of the killing of Sinclair, 109. Lived a life of want and plenty, 110. Threatens to publiſh a narrative of his mother's conduct, in hopes of extorting a penſion from her, 111. Received into the family of Lord Tyrconnel, who promiſes him a penſion of 200*l.* a year, 112. Writes The Author to be Let, 113. The part he had in the Dunciad, 116. His epigram on Dennis, 118. Receives twenty guineas for a panegyrick on Sir R. Walpole, 119. Laments the miſery of living at other men's tables, 120. Publiſhes The Wanderer, 121. The character of that poem, ib. His peculiar attention to correctneſs in printing, 124. Sells the copy of the Wanderer for ten guineas, 125. His quarrel with Lord Tyrconnel, 126. Writes the Triumph of Health and Mirth, 130. Cloſely ſtudies the great, 131. Again turned adrift on the world, 135. The reſentment between Lord Tyrconnel and him kept up for many years, 141. Publiſhes the Baſtard, a poem, 142. This poem obliges his mother to retire from Bath to London, 143. Imputed none of his miſeries to himſelf, 146. Miſtook the love, for the practice of virtue, 147. His actions generally precipitate and blameable, his writings tended to the propagation of morality and piety, 148. Exerts all his intereſt to be a pointed Poet-Laureat, but is diſappointed, 149. Becomes Volunteer Laureat

to the Queen, for which her Majeſty ſends him 50*l.* and permiſſion to continue it annually, 149. Accuſed of influencing elections againſt the Court, 156. An information againſt him in the King's Bench, for publiſhing an obſcene pamplet, 157. Writes the Progreſs of a Divine, 159. Satirized in the Weekly Miſcellany, and defended in the Gentleman's Magazine, ib. The information diſmiſſed by Sir Philip Yorke, 162. Purpoſes writing the Progreſs of a Free-thinker, 163. His practice to conceal himſelf from his friends, while he ſpent the Queen's penſion, 164. Sir R. Walpole promiſes the firſt place vacant, not exceeding 200*l.* a year, 165. Dedicates a poem on Public Spirit to the Prince of Wales, for which he received no reward, 167. For a great part of the year lived by invitations, and lodged by accident ſometimes in Summer on a bulk, and in Winter in a glaſs-houſe, 175. Whereever he went, could not conform to the œconomy of a family, 177. As his affairs grew deſperate, his reputation declined, 181. Propoſes to publiſh his works by ſubſcription, but, not being ſo much encouraged as he either expected or merited, ſpent the money he received, and never publiſhed the poems, 183. His univerſal acquaintance, 185. By the death of the Queen, loſes both his proſpect of preferment and his annuity, 187. Purpoſes writing a new tragedy on the ſtory of Sir Thomas Overbury, ib. Writes a poem on the Death of the Queen, on her ſubſequent birth day, with extracts from it, 188. His friends ſend him into Wales, on a promiſe of allowing 50*l.* a year, 193. Forms enchanting proſpects of a country life, 194. Takes a lodging in

in the liberties of the Fleet, and receives one guinea a week of his friends ſubſcription, 195. Sets off for Wales in July 1739, ſpends all his money before he reaches Briſtol, gets a freſh remittance, arrives at Briſtol, where he is well received, and ſtays for ſome time, and at laſt goes to Swanſea, the place of his deſtination, 200. His annuity greatly diminiſhed, 202. Completes his tragedy, ib. Arreſted at Briſtol, and his Letter to a Friend on that occaſion, 210. Is very kindly treated by the keeper of the priſon, 217. His Letter to a friend, who adviſed him not to publiſh London and Briſtol delineated, 220. Poſtpones the publication, 221. Dies in priſon, Aug. 1, 1743, and buried in the church-yard of St. Peter's, Briſtol, 225. His perſon deſcribed, 226. His character, ib. Allowed 20*l.* a year by Pope, v. 151.

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SHENSTONE, WILLIAM, his life, vi. 310. Born at the Leaſowes, in Hales-Owen, Shropſhire, 1714, ib. Entered of Pembroke College, Oxford, 1732, 311. Publiſhed a volume of Miſcellanies, 1737, 312. His judgement of Hercules, 1741, ib. His Schoolmiſtreſs, 1742, ib. Wanders about, to acquaint himſelf with life, ib. Delights in rural elegance, 313. Died in 1763, 316. His character, ib. Gray's account of him, 318. Account of his works, ib.

SMITH, alias NEALE, EDMUND, his life, by Dr. Oldiſworth, iii. 1. Son of a merchant of the name of Neale, by a daughter of Baron Lechmere, 2. Took the name of Smith from being brought up by an uncle of that name, ib. Educated at Weſtminſter, under Buſby, and removed to Chriſt Church, Oxford, ib. His character, 3. Character of his works, 13. His life by Dr. Johnſon, 22. Born at Handley, in Worceſterſhire, ib. Educated at Weſtminſter, ib. Took his Maſter's degree at Oxford, 1696, 23. Narrowly eſcapes expulſion for irregularities in 1700, ib. Expelled 1705, 26. Reſides in London, ib. Account of his works, 28. Dedicates Phædra, a tragedy, to the Marquis of Halifax, who had prepared to reward him with a place of 300*l.* a year, which he loſes through not ſoliciting it, ib. Purpoſes writing a tragedy of Lady Jane Grey, 30. Retires into the country for that purpoſe, where he

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SOMERVILE, Mr. his life, iv. 56. Born at Edſton, in Warwickſhire, 1692, ib. Educated at Wincheſter, and Fellow of New College, ib. Died July 19, 1742, and an account of his death by Shenſtone, 57. Account of his works, 59.

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SPRAT, Dr. THOMAS, his life of Cowley rather a funeral oration than a hiſtory, i. 5. His life, iii. 50. Born at Tallaton, Devonſhire, 1636, ib. Became Commoner at Oxford 1651, ib. Takes orders, and made Chaplain to the Duke of Buckingham, whom he is ſaid to have aſſiſted in writing the Rehearſal, 51. A favourite of Wilkins, ib. One of the firſt fellows of the Royal

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Connor, ib. Returns to Temple, and gives up his prebend, ib. Wrote Pindaric Odes to the King, Temple, and the Athenian Society, 241. Dryden's declaration, that Swift would never be a poet, ib. Temple dies, and leaves his MSS. to Swift, for whom he had obtained a promiſe of the firſt vacant prebend of Weſtminſter, or Canterbury, which never was performed, ib. Dedicates Temple's Poſthumous Works to the King, ib. Goes to Ireland with the Earl of Berkeley as private ſecretary, 242. Diſappointed of the Deanry of Derry, he gets two ſmall livings in the dioceſe of Meath, ib. Invites Stella to Ireland, ib. Publiſhes the Diſſentions in Athens and Rome in 1701, 243. In 1704, the Tale of a Tub, ib. In 1708, the Sentiments of a Church-of-England Man, and ſome other pamphlets, 245. Enters into the ſervice of Mr. Harley 1710, 258. Writes thirty-three Papers in the Examiner, 249. Publiſhes a propoſal for correcting, &c. the Engliſh Tongue, 252. Writes a Letter to the October Club, 250. In 1712, publiſhes the Conduct of the Allies, 252. Reflexions on the Barrier Treaty, and Remarks on the Introduction to vol. III. of Burnet's Hiſtory of the Reformation, 254. Diſcovers the miſery of greatneſs, 256. Accepts the Deanry of St. Patrick's 1713, 257. Refuſes 50*l.* of Lord Oxford, but accepts of a draft of 1000*l.* on the Exchequer, which was intercepted by the death of the Queen, ib. Endeavours to reconcile Lords Oxford and Bolingbroke, but in vain, 258. Publiſhes in 1714 the Public Spirit of the Whigs, in anſwer to the Criſis, 259. 300*l.* offered for the diſcovery of the author, ib. Retires in 1714 into Berkſhire, 260. Mrs. Johnſon removes from

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WALLER, EDMUND, his life, ii. 1. Born at Colſhill, in Hertfordſhire, March 3, 1605, ib. His father left him 3500*l.* a year, ib. Educated at Eton, and removed to King's College, Cambridge, ib. Returned to Parliament in his 18th year, 2. Wrote his firſt poetry in his 18th year, 3. Marries Mrs. Banks, a great heireſs, 5. Loſes his wife, who leaves one daughter, ib. Addreſſes Lady Dorothea Sidney, under the name of Sachariſſa, who rejects his addreſſes, 6. Celebrates Lady Sophia Murray under the name of Amoret, ib. Marries a lady of the name of Breſſe, or Breaux, by whom he had five ſons and eight daughters, 8. Being returned to the parliament of 1640, makes a noiſy ſpeech on imaginary grievances, 9. No bigot to his party, 12. His ſpeech on Epiſcopacy, 13. Sends 1000 broad pieces to the King when he ſet up his ſtandard, 17. Continues to ſit in the rebellious conventicle, and to ſpeak againſt their proceedings, ib. Nominated one of the commiſſioners to treat with the King at Oxford, 18. Engaged in a plot againſt Parliament, ib. The manner in which the plot was diſcovered, 22. Waller and Tomkyns taken up, both of whom confeſs the whole plot, 23. A day of thankſgiving appointed for deliverance from the plot, 26. Earl of Portland and Lord Conway taken up on the declaration of Waller, for

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WALSH, WILLIAM, his life, ii. 117. Born at Abberley, in Worceſterſhire, 1663, ib. Entered Gentleman Commoner at Oxford, 1678, ib. The beſt critick in the nation, ib. Member of Parliament for Worceſterſhire, 118. Gentleman of the Horſe to Queen Anne, ib. A zealous friend to the Revolution, ib. Correſponded with Pope, on the paſtoral comedy of the Italians, ib. Suppoſed to have died in 1709, 119. Account of his Works, ib.

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Warburton, William, Biſhop of Glouceſter, his literary and critical character, v. 98. Defends Pope's Eſſay on Man againſt Crouſaz, ib. Commences a friendſhip with Pope, ib. Erects a monument to the memory of Pope, 129. Defends the memory of Pope againſt the accuſations of Mallet, 132.

WATTS, Dr. ISAAC, his life, v. 259. Born at Southampton, 1674, ib. Began to learn Latin at four years of age, 260. Afterwards taught Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, by Mr. Pinhorne, maſter of the free-ſchool at Southampton, ib. His proficiency at ſchool very conſpicuous, ib. Declares his reſolution of taking his lot with the Diſſenters, ib. Such he was as every Chriſtian Church would rejoice to have adopted, ib. Repairs to a Diſſenting academy taught by Mr. Rowe, ib. Fellow ſtudent with Mr. Hughes the poet, and Dr. Horte, afterwards Archbiſhop of Tuam, ib. A maker of verſes from fifteen to fifty, ib. Impreſſed the contents of his books upon his memory by abridging them, and amplifying one ſyſtem with ſupplements from another, 261. Communicated with the congregation (Independents) of his tutor, Mr. Rowe, in his nineteenth year, ib. Left the academy at the age of twenty, and ſpent two years in ſtudy and devotion at his father's houſe, ib. Domeſtic tutor to Sir John Hartopp's ſon, ib. Choſen aſſiſtant preacher to Dr. Chauncey on the birth-day that compleated his twenty-fourth year, 262. Succeeded Dr. Chauncey in about three years, ib. Seized by a dangerous illneſs, which ſunk him to ſuch weakneſs that an aſſiſtant became neceſſary, and the congregation accordingly appointed Mr. Price, ib. Received into the family of Sir Thomas

Abney, in which he continued thirty-ſix years, ib. The number and variety of his works, ſhew the intenſeneſs of his ſtudy, and the extent of his capacity, 266. One of the firſt authors who taught the Diſſenters to court attention by the graces of language, ib. Continued to the end of his life the teacher of a congregation, ib. Excelled in the art of pronunciation, ib. By his natural temper, quick of reſentment; but, by his eſtabliſhed and habitual practice, gentle, modeſt, and inoffenſive, 267. Allowed the third part of his annual income to the poor, though it did not amount to 100*l.* ib. His Works characterized, 268. Whatever he took in hand, by his inceſſant ſolicitude for ſouls, was converted to theology, 269. Received from Edinburgh and Aberdeen an unſolicited diploma of D. D. 270. Died Nov. 25, 1748, ib. His character, ib.

WEST, GILBERT, his life, v. 289. Educated at Eton and Oxford, ib. Deſigned for the church, but obtains a commiſſion in the army, ib. Reſigns his commiſſion, and appointed Clerk extraordinary of the Privy Council, under Lord Townſend, 1729, 290. Settles at Wickham, in Kent, ib. Publiſhes his Obſervations on the Reſurrection, 1747, ib. Created LL. D. at Oxford, 1748, ib. Frequently viſited by Lyttelton and Pitt, 291. Clerk of the Privy Council and Treaſurer of Chelſea Hoſpital, 292. Died 1756, ib. His Works characterized, ib.

WHITEHEAD, PAUL, his life, vi. 175. Youngeſt ſon of Edmund Whitehead, ib. Born on St. Paul's day 1710, ib. Educated at Hitchin, in Hertfordſhire, ib. Placed as an apprentice to a mercer in London, which he

he ſoon quitted, and entered himſelf of the Temple in order to ſtudy the law, ib. Prevailed upon by Mr. Fleetwood to become bound with him for the payment of a conſiderable ſum of money, ib. When the money became due, Fleetwood, unable to diſcharge the debt, abſconded, and Whitehead was arreſted and confined ſeveral years in the Fleet priſon, 176. In 1733 he publiſhed The State Dunces, which he inſcribed to Mr. Pope, ib. In 1738 he publiſhed Manners, a ſatire, ib. Dodſley the publiſher taken into cuſtody by the Black Rod, and confined a week on account of this ſatire, ib. [See vol. v. p. 115.] In 1744 he publiſhed the Gymnaſiad; and in 1747, Honour, a ſatire, ib. Author of a celebrated pamphlet, intituled, The Caſe of the Honourable Alexander Murray, which fell under the cenſure of the Houſe of Commons, ib. Mr. Owen, the publiſher of the above pamphlet, proſecuted for vending it, 177. Publiſhed the Epiſtle to Dr. Thompſon in 1755, ib. Marries Miſs Dyer, daughter of Sir Swinnerton Dyer, ib. Said to have received 10,000*l.* with his wife, ib. Particularly attached to Lord Le Deſpenſer, at whoſe houſe he almoſt conſtantly reſided, and by whom he was equally eſteemed, ib. Bequeaths his heart to Lord Le Deſpenſer, with 50*l.* for an urn, deſiring it to be placed in his Lordſhip's mauſoleum, ib. Burns his MSS. during a ſevere illneſs, ib. Died Dec. 30, 1774, and his heart was depoſited according to his deſire, with great pomp and ceremony, ib.

WHITEHEAD, WILLIAM, his life, vi. 187. Born at Cambridge 1714-15, ib. Son of a baker in that town, ib. Diſcharged the debts of his father, ib. Received

the firſt rudiments of his education at ſome common ſchool in Cambridge, ib. Removed to Wincheſter July 6, 1728, ib. Very early exhibited his taſte for poetry, 188. Wrote a comedy at the age of 16 years, ib. Obtains a prize at Wincheſter College, ib. Prepoſitor of the hall at Wincheſter College, ib. Leaves Wincheſter without any other advantage than a good education, 189. Admitted a ſizar of Clare Hall, Cambridge, 1735, ib. In 1736 he publiſhed Verſes on the Marriage of the Prince of Wales, ib. Publiſhes verſes on the birth of the preſent King, in 1738, ib. In 1741 appeared The Danger of writing Verſe, ib. In 1743 was publiſhed Atys and Adraſtus, ib. The ſame year appeared an Epiſtle from Ann Boleyn in the Tower to King Henry the Eighth, 190. An Eſſay on Ridicule appeared alſo in 1743, ib. Publiſhes Nobility, an Epiſtle to the Earl of Aſhburnham, ib. Obſerved the ſtricteſt frugality poſſible while an under-graduate, ib. After taking his degree he wrote rapidly for the preſs, ib. Elected Fellow of Clare Hall in 1742, ib. Loſt his mother in April 1743, ib. Commenced M. A. in the ſame year, ib. Intended to take orders, and accordingly prepared himſelf for the Church, ib. Appointed tutor to the Earl of Jerſey's ſon, 191. Reſigns his fellowſhip at Michaelmas 1746, ib. Writes The Roman Father, ib. Collects his works into a volume in 1754, ib. Produced Creuſa Queen of Athens the ſame year, ib. Attends the Earl of Jerſey's ſon and Viſcount Nuneham, in their travels, as their joint governor, 192. Returned to Harwich in 1756, ib. While on his travels, received the badges of ſecretary and regiſter

ter of the Order of the Bath, ib. Appointed Poet Laureat in 1757, ib. In 1762 he produced The School for Lovers, ib. In the ſame year his Charge to the Poets, ib. In 1770 The Trip to Scotland was acted, ib. In 1774 he again collected his works into two volumes, ib. In 1776 Variety was publiſhed; and in 1777 The Goat's Beard, ib. Died April 14, 1785, and was buried in South Audley Chapel, ib.

WILMOT, JOHN, Earl of ROCHESTER. See ROCHESTER.

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YALDEN, THOMAS, his life, iv. 34. Born at Exeter in 1671, ib. Educated at Oxford, ib. His readineſs at compoſition, ib. Became Doctor of Divinity, 1706, 37. Rector of Chalton and Cleanville, ib

Preacher

Preacher at Bridewell, 1698, ib. Charged with a dangerous correſpondence with Kelly, 38. His papers ſeized, but no criminality appearing, was diſcharged, ib. Died July 16, 1736, 39. Account of his poems, ib.

YOUNG, EDWARD, his life, by Herbert Croft, vi. 1. Born at Upham, near Wincheſter, 1681, 2. Account of his father, ib. Queen Mary ſtood as god-mother to him, 3. Educated at Wincheſter College, ib. Entered at New College, 1703, 4. Law Fellow of All Souls, 1708, ib. Batchelor of Civil Laws, 1714, and Doctor, 1719, 5. Speaks the Latin Oration when the foundation of the Codrington Library was laid, ib. Publiſhed his Epiſtle to Lord Lanſdowne, 1712, 9. Poem on the Laſt Day publiſhed, 1713, 11. Patronized by Lord Wharton, 16. Buſiris brought on the ſtage, 1719, 17. The Revenge, 1721, ib. Has two annuities granted him by Lord Wharton, 20. Attempts to get into Parliament for Cirenceſter, 21. Takes orders, and becomes a popular preacher, ib. Account of his Satires, 23. Acquired more than 3000*l.* by the Univerſal Paſſion, 26. Chaplain to George II. 33. Writes The Brothers, ib. Preſented to the living of Welwyn, 1730, 36. Married Lady Elizabeth Lee, daughter to the Earl of Litchfield, 1731, ib. His wife died, 1741, 39. His Philander and Narciſſa ſuppoſed to be intended for Mr. and Mrs. Temple, ib. The occaſion of the Night Thoughts real, 41. His ſon defended from the reports of ill-behaviour to his father, 46. The characters of Lorenzo not deſigned for his ſon, ib. His Letter to Pope, 55. None of his writings

writings prejudicial to the cauſe of Virtue and Religion 58. The Brothers brought on the ſtage, 1753, 60. Gives 1000*l.* to the Society for the Propagation of the Goſpel, ib. Hiſtory and account of his poem called Reſignation, 66. His friendſhip for his houſekeeper, 69. Died in 1765, 70. Many untruths mentioned of him in the Biographia, ib. Story of his ſtraying into the enemy's camp, with a claſſick in his hand, 71. The Archbiſhop of Canterbury's Letter to him, 72. Appointed Clerk of the Cloſet to the Princeſs Dowager, 1761, 73. Not the Parſon Adams of Fielding, 75. His epitaph, 77. His Poems characterized by Dr. Johnſon, 79.

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